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PROCEEDINGS and DEBATES in PARLIAMENT. [143.]

THE bill for regulating the marriages of the Royal Family met with increaſing oppoſition in its progreſs through the Houſe of Commons.

It was brought from the upper aſſembly, on Wedneſday the 4th of March, by the two judges, Lord Chief Baron Parker, and Baron Smyth. They were no ſooner retired, than Mr Seymour made a motion, That his Majeſty's meſſage, which had been received by the Houſe on the 28th of February, ſhould firſt be taken into conſideration. He ſaid, That he was againſt the bill itſelf, and would oppoſe it in all its ſtages; that the meſſage was highly blameable, and the perſon who adviſed it, he would not heſitate to ſay, highly criminal; that it appeared to be drawn up by one whoſe breaſt ſwelled with prerogative-doctrine; and that it contained aſſertions directly contrary to the laws of the land.

Mr Jenkinſon, however, having obſerved, that it was a compliment uniformly paid to every bill of this kind, that it ſhould be read, the firſt time, immediately, and it being ſuggeſted, that this did not preclude the future conſideration of the King's meſſage, the motion was for the preſent withdrawn, and the bill was read accordingly by the Speaker.

Mr Seymour then ſaid, that he underſtood the matter had had a thorough diſcuſſion

cuſſion in another place; that he therefore moved for the appointment of a committee to inſpect the journals of the Houſe of Lords, and to report to the Houſe the proceedings of that aſſembly upon this important affair.

This motion was ſeconded by Mr Dowdeſwell; who urged, in ſupport of it, that the Houſe of Lords had taken the opinion of the judges upon the doctrine contained in his Majeſty's meſſage; that the Commons could not now have the ſame opportunity of conſulting thoſe learned men, as the greateſt part of them were gone upon the circuit; that their ſentiments, though not perhaps unknown to any individual member, had not been ſignified to the Houſe as a body; that it was therefore reaſonable, by having recourſe to the journals of the Peers, to obtain all the information in their power.

No oppoſition being made to this motion, a committee was appointed accordingly.

It was next propoſed by the gentlemen in oppoſition, that the bill ſhould be printed. It was alledged, that the matter was of ſuch momentous importance to the community, that the members ought to have every opportunity of being thoroughly acquainted with its contents; that every word in this bill ought to be weighed and conſidered with as much attention as a whole clauſe in ordinary acts of parliament.

This motion was oppoſed by Lord North; who ſaid, that no argument could be brought to prove the neceſſity of printing the bill; that as it was extremely ſhort, and lying upon the table, every member might, with the greateſt eaſe, make himſelf maſter of its contents. Upon a diviſion, the queſtion paſſed in the negative, 193 to 109.

On Monday, March 9. the day fixed for the ſecond reading of the bill, after the committee named to examine the proceedings of the houſe of Lords had made their report to the Houſe, the doctrine advanced in his Majeſty's meſſage came to be the ſubject of conſideration.

A motion was made by Mr Dowdeſwell, and ſeconded by Mr Seymour, which was to the following purpoſe: "That it does not appear, that the propoſition affirmed in his Majeſty's meſſage to this Houſe, viz. That the right of approving *all* marriages in the Royal Family has ever belonged to the Kings of this realm, is founded in law, or warranted by the opinion of the judges of England." In oppoſition to this motion, another was made by Mr Welbore Ellis, for the order of the day, that is, the ſecond reading of the bill. Upon which a very long and ſpirited debate enſued.

The oppoſers of the bill ſaid, That the miniſter had put into the mouth of the King the moſt crude and undigeſted ideas, the moſt exceptionable and obnoxious language; that the claim of univerſal power over the marriages of the Royal Family was clearly condemned by the opinion of the judges, who had declared expreſsly, that they did not find the King's authority extended farther than his own children, and grandchildren, and the preſumptive heir to the crown; and there was no reaſon, it was obſerved, to ſuſpect, that theſe ſages of the law had not been as favourable as the nature of the caſe would admit; that the cautious and guarded expreſſions they had made uſe of, the ſtudied reſerve which is to be remarked in their anſwer, made it juſtly queſtionable, on the contrary, whether they had not expounded the law too favourably for the miniſtry. It was aſked, upon what grounds they had given the King a power to diſpoſe even of his children and grandchildren in marriage? A like courtly opinion, it was allowed, had been given by the judges in 1717; but ſo far were they from producing the grounds upon which they founded that opinion, that the extraordinary ſecrecy with which their deliberations were carried on, upon that occaſion, was alone ſufficient to create a ſuſpicion that they were conſcious they had none. The claim of authority, it was ſaid, was certainly not founded upon ſtatutes; for till this hour Engliſh juriſprudence knew of no ſuch reſtraint. The act which regulated other marriages, expreſsly excepted the Royal Family. And it is well known, that the common law, till that period, left all men to their natural liberty. Had it been otherwiſe, had any proviſion been previouſly made, that act would never have exiſted. Had the paternal authority exerciſed in Rome been rooted in our conſtitution, ſuch a ſtatute would have been abſurd and ridiculous, becauſe uſeleſs and unneceſſary.

It was urged, on the other ſide, That it was natural to ſuppoſe, that ſuch a prerogative exiſted in the crown; that the great importance of the marriages of the Royal Family made it reaſonable to conclude,

conclude, that the care and approbation of them ſhould be lodged ſomewhere; and that it could be no where ſo properly placed as in the hands of the King. In fact, it was ſaid, by conſulting our hiſtory, we ſhould find, that the ſovereigns of this realm have always contracted, and been conſulted in, the marriages of their children; nor could any ſingle inſtance be produced, where any of the children of the King have married, and the ſame has been ſignified to parliament, but that the conſent and approbation of the crown has regularly accompanied ſuch notification.

It was replied to theſe arguments, by the enemies of the bill, That admitting a power of approbation and aſſent in the crown, there was no foundation for a claim of authority to put a negative upon the marriages of the Royal Family. A power, it was admitted, had frequently been given by Kings to ambaſſadors, to marry their children by proxy; but in no inſtance had an effectual ſtop been put to any marriage by the exerciſe of the royal prerogative. If any ſuch prerogative had exiſted, there had opportunities enough offered of exerciſing it. Such was the caſe of John of Gaunt, who made a very imprudent match, with a widow who had four children. Such was Lord Hertford's marriage with Lady Catharine Gray, mentioned by Mr Seymour, who ſaid he ſhould look upon himſelf as a diſgrace to his family if he did not contend againſt the prerogative claimed in the meſſage. That marriage, he obſerved, though objected to, proved good and valid at common law. Beſides many other examples, notice was alſo taken of the caſe of the Duke of York, well known in the hiſtory of this country, who, being informed that the King was deſirous he ſhould deſiſt from the project of his intended marriage, returned for anſwer, that he would comply, and wiſhed every ſubject in the kingdom would ſhow as much deference to the King's will as he did. This, it was remarked, was far from proving any compulſatory power in the crown, and only manifeſted the Duke's unwillingneſs to uſe his natural freedom in contradiction to the wiſhes of the King. It was further alledged, that there was no remedy in law appertaining to ſuch pretended right of the crown. Had the Duke of Cumberland, inſtead of the deſcendent of an ancient Engliſh family, married a perſon in the very loweſt rank of life, by what legal proceeding, it was demanded, could that offence have been puniſhed? The caſe of the Counteſs of Shrewſbury, as mentioned in Hubbard's Reports, was evidently not in point. The fine impoſed upon her was for contempt only; and the offence for which ſhe was puniſhed, was merely refuſing to anſwer. The proceedings of the Star-chamber, it was ſaid, were now happily aboliſhed; and there was no court of law in which a proſecution could be carried on for ſuch pretended offences. As therefore there could be no right without a remedy, it appeared evident, that the prerogative now claimed by the crown, never had had any exiſtence.

The miniſtry were ſupported, however, by the crown-lawyers, in the principles they maintained, upon this occaſion, viz. That this prerogative, though undefined both as to the power and the objects of it, had been veſted in the crown, by the conſtitution, and the common law of the land, from time immemorial to this day; and that any act done contrary to it, or in defiance of it, was a contempt of the prerogative, and (as a crime at common law) might be proſecuted at common law, and be puniſhed by fine and impriſonment.

The queſtion for the ſecond reading of the bill was at laſt put, and carried, 268 to 140. By this time it being near two o'clock in the morning, a motion was made to adjourn; but it paſſed in the negative, 226 to 134. At three o'clock another motion was made to adjourn; but there was no diviſion upon it, and the minority left the houſe.

In a committee of the whole houſe on Wedneſday March 11. and ſeveral ſucceeding days, the merits of the bill were diſcuſſed at very great length. Not only were objections made to every clauſe; but almoſt every line, and every particle was minutely and ſeverely criticiſed. We ſhall mention ſuch of the propoſed amendments as appear to be of the greateſt importance.

It was firſt moved to leave out that part of the preamble of the bill which confirms the right aſſerted by his Majeſty, of authority over the marriages of the whole Royal Family; and Mr Dowdeſwell renewed his motion, which had been debated before the ſecond reading of the bill, "That the doctrine is not founded in law, nor warranted by the

judges of England." This motion was rejected, 200 to 164.

In the firſt enacting clauſe, an amendment was propoſed equivalent to that which had been attempted in the Houſe of Peers, to wit, that, inſtead of "that *no deſcendent* of his late Majeſty Geo. II." the bill ſhould run, "that no *child, grandchild*, or *preſumptive heir* of Geo. II." The principal argument in favour of this alteration was the dangerous and unneceſſary extent given, by this clauſe, to the influence of the crown. It paſſed in the negative, 222 to 160.

A ſmall alteration was made in this clauſe at the deſire of the ſpeaker. By the words of the bill the conſent of his Majeſty, or his ſucceſſors, was to be ſignified under *their ſign manual*; in place of which it was agreed to inſert *the great ſeal*.

Strong objections were urged againſt that part of the clauſe which enacts, that the marriages contracted without the Royal conſent ſhall be null and void. Improper alliances formed by any of the members of the Royal Family, were allowed to merit the higheſt marks of diſpleaſure; but the penalty here annexed to ſuch matches would, it was ſaid, appear to be ſingularly unjuſt, and dreadful in its conſequences, if we reflected, that, by the concealing of the marriages, their illegality might come to be determined after ſeveral generations; the female anceſtor, in conſequence, declared of infamous life and converſation; and the iſſue illegitimate, and incapable of inheritance. In place of this member of the clauſe, the following words were therefore propoſed to be ſubſtituted, "and that ſuch deſcendent ſo marrying, &c. ſhall be for ever incapable to inherit, poſſeſs, or enjoy, the crown of Great Britain; and in ſuch caſes the people are hereby abſolved from their allegiance; and the crown ſhall deſcend to ſuch perſons as ſhould have inherited it, in caſe ſuch perſons ſo marrying were actually dead." Upon a diviſion, it paſſed in the negative.

The next amendment attempted to be made was to omit the term of twenty-five years, and to inſert that of twenty-one. The abſurdity of protracting the term of minority in the caſe of the King's children was warmly inſiſted on. "Is it the intention of our miniſtry by this bill," ſaid Col. Barré, "to make us inſinuate, that our Royal Family are but idiots and lunatics? Though they have not ſagacity to perceive it, this is the compliment which they pay to his Majeſty, when they ſuppoſe his family incapable of walking without leading-ſtrings till the age of twenty-five. Why do I ſay the age of twenty-five? The bill continues their ſtate of minority for ever, and leaves them pupils and wards of his Majeſty and the parliament all their life. In order, however, to make amends, his Majeſty, let him be ever ſo young, ever ſo ignorant, ever ſo inexperienced, is ſuppoſed to be, at eighteen, endued with every good quality both of head and heart, being inveſted with power to provide himſelf a proper conſort, and to act as guardian to his former guardian, to the man who was perhaps regent of the realm, ſuperintended his education, and provided him with ſwadling cloaths." The ſame arguments were enlarged upon by other members. The alteration propoſed was however rejected, 103 to 48.

It was likewiſe alledged, that there was a degree of abſurdity in the phraſe, "in caſe ſuch deſcendent ſhall *perſiſt* in his reſolution," when it may happen that he has never, before that period, entertained any thoughts of marriage. Theſe words were propoſed therefore to be altered to the following, "*ſhall intend* to contract," &c. But this motion ſhared the ſame fate with the foregoing.

Two other motions, the one to leave out the clauſe regarding the diſapprobation of parliament, the other to limit the time fixed for the notification of the ſentiments of that aſſembly to one month, inſtead of twelve, were alſo rejected by a conſiderable majority.

The diſcuſſion of the merits of the bill, in the committee, was concluded with a debate upon the *premunire* clauſe. That ſtatute is affirmed, in the act, to have been made in the 16th of Richard II. The gentlemen who oppoſed the bill aſſerted that no ſuch ſtatute ever exiſted. They were ſupported by the Speaker, who aſſured the Houſe, that he had conſulted all the law-books that were likely to give him any information upon this matter, that he had ſearched all the acts paſſed in the reign of Richard II. but could find no traces of the ſtatute referred to by the bill. It was however carried, upon a diviſion, 195 to 110, that the clauſe ſhould ſtand part of the bill, without any alteration.

It

It is remarkable, that the Speaker, though he defended the authority of the prince over the marriages of the Royal Family, as aſſerted in the King's meſſage, yet ſtrongly oppoſed every part of the bill itſelf. He ſaid, He liked the prerogative as claimed, though a high, bold prerogative. He thought it harmleſs, becauſe not big with inconſiſtency and nullities, and becauſe any offence againſt it muſt be decided in the moment; whereas this law was big with nullities and abſurdities, and an offence might come to be decided when all the grounds of evidence were loſt, and when there was nothing left to decide it but arms: That the ſuppoſed prerogative extended to the Royal Family only, and not to the whole deſcendents of any man: That all the deſcendents of any given ſtock could not be ſaid to be of the Royal Family: the perſons comprehended under that denomination could be defined only by by an act of ſtate; and that till ſuch an act was made, there was properly no Royal Family; the term conveyed no preciſe or determinate idea. The preſent ſenſe affixed to the words, and the extenſion of the Royal authority over the whole progeny of George II. he totally diſapproved of.

On the 23d of March the amendments of the committee were reported to the Houſe, and agreed to. A motion was then made to inſert a clauſe, "That the act ſhould continue in force during the reign of his preſent Majeſty, and three years after his demiſe, and no longer."

After ſome debate, the queſtion was put, and was carried in the negative, 150 to 132.

The following day the bill was read the third time, and, after a debate of near four hours, paſſed, on a diviſion, 168 to 115.

Sir Joſeph Mawbey moved to correct the title of the act, and to make it coextenſive with its contents, by adding theſe words: "An act for *enlarging and extending the prerogatives of the crown, and for the encouragement of adultery and fornication, under pretence of* regulating the marriages of the Royal Family."

Lord North was ordered to carry the bill to the Lords, and to deſire their concurrence to the amendments made by the Commons. Which their Lordſhips agreed to, as they acquainted the Commons by a meſſage next day, March 25.; and the King gave the royal aſſent to the bill on the 1ſt of April.

To every Gentleman deſirous to promote the Publication of an Accurate Account of the Antiquities, Preſent State, and Natural Hiſtory of SCOTLAND.

SIR,

THE great civility and hoſpitality I experienced in my journey through part of North Britain in 1769 [24, 21.], encourage me to make a viſit to the places I have not yet ſeen. Permit me to prepare you for my coming, by ſending this notice of my intention of being in your neighbourhood the enſuing ſummer, and of paying my reſpects to you. As my ſtay can be but very ſhort, I am deſirous of being at once directed to the objects moſt worthy the obſervation of a traveller, and to be favoured with a collection of ſuch things as I take the liberty of enumerating, and which it is impoſſible for a tranſient viſitor to get together. As my ſole objects are, my own improvement, and the true knowledge of your country, hitherto miſrepreſented, I have no doubt of your complying with my wiſhes, which are included in the following queries and requeſts.

1. What lakes, rivers, water-falls, or remarkable ſprings or fountains are there near you?

2. What remarkable natural caves, rocks, or mountains: what pictureſque ſcenes worth drawing?

3. Any remarkable echoes? Have any remarkable ſtorms, whirlwinds, earthquakes, or other ſingular phænomena, happened in your neighbourhood?

4. What are the predominant diſeaſes of your country? and what are the means of cure uſed by your natural phyſicians? Have you loſt any ancient diſtempers, or received any new ones?

5. Are there any people remarkable for their longevity, or for any particular accidents in body or mind? any bards? any ingenious ſelf-taught artificers?

6. Does the number of the inhabitants in your pariſh increaſe or decreaſe? and to what cauſe may either be owing?

7. What may the preſent number be?

8. What are the principal commercial productions of your neighbourhood, manufactures, fiſheries, ſorts of corn raiſed? do you raiſe enough to export or otherwiſe?

9. What manures do you uſe?

10. Do you cultivate flax, hemp, potatoes, &c.?

11. What number of cattle, horſes, ſheep, or ſwine, are ſent annually out of your pariſh?

12. What remarkable antiquities, artificial caves,

caves, mounts, intrenchments, druidical circles, pillars, or ſtones, croſſes, grave-ſtones, monuments, inſcriptions?

13. Any ruins of religious houſes, or churches; or of ancient caſtles or cities? Favour me as much as poſſible with their hiſtory.

14. Pleaſe to inform me, Have any gentlemen in your neighbourhood any remarkable antiquities relating to the Scottiſh hiſtory in their poſſeſſion; ancient weapons, ſtone, or iron; adder-ſtones, or glaſs-beads, brotches, or the like?

15. Has any gentleman any remarkable portraits, or other pictures?

16. Have any remarkable battles been fought in your pariſh?

17. Do the people retain any remarkable cuſtoms or ſuperſtitions?

18. What are their ſports and plays? have they any annual feſtivals or commemorations?

19. Pleaſe to obſerve and collect againſt my coming, ſpecimens of all ſorts of earths, clays, ſtones, marbles, pebbles, ſands, aſbeſtus, minerals, and ores; alſo bituminous foſſils, petrified ſhells, wood, foſſil-wood, in ſhort, foſſils of all denominations.

20. Collect all ſorts of freſh ſea-ſhells, crabs, lobſters, corals, ſea-plants, and every thing flung aſhore by the waves.

21. Pleaſe to point out all ſingular trees and vegetables, and their uſes.

22. Remark all the principal places where the ſea-fowl reſort to; alſo, where eagles and falcons breed. Pleaſe to preſerve any ſingular birds by flaying, and ſtuffing them; and collect inſects of all kinds.

The object of my collecting is not ſelfiſh; whatſoever I may acquire will be at the ſervice of the national repoſitory, the Muſæum at Edinburgh, now under the care of my friend Dr Ramſay, Profeſſor of Natural Hiſtory. [xxxiii. 562.]

I flatter myſelf that you will accept this with candour, and that you will receive the writer as one who wiſhes well to your country in particular, and to mankind in general.

THOMAS PENNANT.

Downing, Flintſhire, Jan. 31. 1772.

P. S. As it is impoſſible to ſend letters to every perſon of curioſity in the country, I beg you will take the trouble of communicating this to any one of your acquaintance, who, you think, can aſſiſt me in my inquiries; and if, in conſequence of this letter, you prepare any remarks, or make any collection of the natural productions of your country, which you have not an opportunity to communicate to me while on my tour, be pleaſed to ſend them to Dr Ramſay, by whoſe means I can afterwards have the uſe of them.

[The preceding letter was properly circulated ſoon after its date; and the following addreſs has been publiſhed in the news-papers, &c.]

To the Lovers of Natural Hiſtory.

NAtural Hiſtory is, at preſent, the favourite ſcience over all Europe, and the progreſs which has been made in it will diſtinguiſh and characterize the 18th century in the annals of literature. Among us this uſeful branch of knowledge has been cultivated with leſs ardour and ſucceſs than might have been expected from the active genius of our country. Scotland has produced Mathematicians, Moral Philoſophers, Lawyers, Phyſicians, Hiſtorians, and Poets, who are ranked with the moſt eminent in their reſpective claſſes; but hitherto we can boaſt of no Natural Hiſtorian of equal name; neither the animals, the vegetables, nor the minerals of our country, have been properly deſcribed. This is the more ſurpriſing, as our countrymen of the laſt century entered with vigour into this field of inquiry. Sir Robert Sibbald, and Sir Andrew Balfour, made ſome laudable and meritorious attempts to collect and deſcribe the natural productions of Scotland.

I know that ſome of our countrymen have now turned their attention towards the ſtudy of Natural Hiſtory, and have made ſuch progreſs in their obſervations and inquiries, that I hope the public may ſoon receive inſtruction from their labours. In the mean time, a ſtranger has ſet us an example of what may be done in this extenſive field of reſearch. Mr Pennant, a gentleman of family and fortune in Flintſhire, made a tour of ſome months in Scotland in ſummer 1769; he obſerved every object with the attention of a philoſopher, and with the ſentiments of a gentleman, ſuperior to thoſe illiberal national prejudices, which is the offſpring of ignorance, nouriſhed by faction. He has lately publiſhed an account of this tour, which is no leſs entertaining than inſtructive.

Mr Pennant, pleaſed with his former reception in Scotland, propoſes to make another viſit to it early this ſummer. In order to render this ſecond tour as beneficial as poſſible, he has addreſſed a letter to the curious in general, but more directly to the clergy of Scotland, ſpecifying

fying the various particulars, with reſpect to which he hopes for their aſſiſtance, or requeſts their information. It is in the power of thoſe Reverend gentlemen to point out to him the objects that merit his attention; and which, without their direction, might eſcape his notice, and they may be of great ſervice in collecting the natural productions which he wiſhes to obſerve.

I know that the clergy of Scotland poſſeſs ſuch liberality of ſentiment, as would diſpoſe them to comply with Mr Pennant's requeſt, without any other inducement than the ſatisfaction ariſing from contributing to advance uſeful ſcience; but their endeavours to gratify Mr Pennant cannot fail of being more active, as they muſt feel that they owe him ſome perſonal return of attention and civility. In his late publication he has celebrated their order with high, but juſt praiſe: ſuch an encomium upon the eſtabliſhed clergy of Scotland, by a member of another church, is extremely honourable, both to thoſe who receive, and to him who beſtows it*.

* [The clergy of Scotland, the moſt decent and conſiſtent in their conduct of any ſet of men I ever met with of their order, are at preſent much changed from the furious, illiterate, and enthuſiaſtic teachers of the old times, and have taken up the mild method of perſuaſion, inſtead of the cruel diſcipline of corporal puniſhments. Science almoſt univerſally flouriſhes among them; and their diſcourſe is not leſs improving than the table they entertain the ſtranger at is decent and hoſpitable. Few, very few of them permit the bewitchery of diſſipation to lay hold of them, notwithſtanding they allow all the innocent pleaſures of others, which, though not criminal in the layman, they know, muſt bring the taint of levity on the churchman. They never ſink their characters by midnight brawls, by mixing with the gaming world, either in cards, dice, or horſe-races, but preſerve, with a narrow income, a dignity too often loſt among their brethren ſouth of the Tweed.

The Scottiſh livings are from 40 l. per ann. to 150 l. per ann.: a decent houſe is built for the miniſter on the glebe, and about ſix acres of land annexed. The church allows no curate; except in caſe of ſickneſs or age, when one, under the title of *helper*, is appointed; or, where the livings are very extenſive, a miſſionary or aſſiſtant is allotted; but ſine-cures, or ſine-cured preferments, never diſgrace the church of our ſiſter-kingdom. The widows and children of thoſe who die in poor circumſtances are of late provided for out of a fund eſtabliſhed by two acts, 17° & 22° Geo. II. *Pennant's Tour.*]

I have often thought, that the ſtudy of Natural Hiſtory was peculiarly ſuited to the ſituation of clergymen. The liberal education which gentlemen of that profeſſion receive, their conſtant reſidence in the country, and the leiſure which they enjoy, enable them to carry on inquiries into the works of Nature with advantage. Such reſearches are intimately connected with the proper object of their function. The extenſive knowledge of Natural Hiſtory which Dr Derham and Mr Ray had acquired, furniſhed materials for two of the beſt works in the Engliſh language, to prove the exiſtence, and illuſtrate the perfections of the Deity. I flatter myſelf, that, by endeavouring to gratify the curioſity of Mr Pennant, ſome of the clergy may acquire ſuch a reliſh for the ſtudy of Nature, as will lead them to inquiries amuſing to themſelves, and inſtructive to mankind.

As it would have been troubleſome to tranſmit Mr Pennant's letter to every clergyman, it has been ſent to the miniſters in all the preſbytery-ſeats in Scotland. They will communicate it to their brethren; and I am confident Mr Pennant will derive great benefit from their aſſiſtance and information. I am, &c.

Edinburgh, May 1. 1772. R.

To the King's Moſt Excellent Majeſty,

The humble petition of Bartholomew De Dominiceti, of Chelſea, in the county of Middleſex, Profeſſor of Phyſic,

Humbly ſheweth,

THat your petitioner has, with great labour, ſtudy, and expence, invented and made a fire-ſtove, with boilers, pots, &c. adapted to the ſame, which together form a machine called by him, *The OEconomiſt*, with other machines to be uſed, united or ſeparate, called *Salutary* and *Diſtillatory*; which will be of great utility to your Majeſty's ſubjects in general, and particularly to chymiſts, diſtillers, and perſons on board of ſhips, in garriſons, camps, hoſpitals, priſons,

This proviſion is not confined to the poor: for it is, in the ſtricteſt ſenſe, the property of the perſons who receive it, the fund being the produce of certain fixed rates paid by their husbands and fathers, in exact proportion to the ſums which they are intitled to draw.

public

public halls, colleges, &c. That this machine will, with the ſame water and fire, and at the ſame time, boil from one to more than twenty different ſorts of fleſh, fiſh, and garden-ſtuff, each ſeparate from the other, ſo as to obtain from every one its ſeparate juice, liquor, or gravy, without any one partaking in the ſmell or taſte of the other; and at the ſame time, and with the ſame fire, make ſea-water freſh; foul, putrid, and magotty water, clean, and ſweet. That this machine will alſo, if no water can be procured, boil the ſame variety of fleſh, fiſh, or garden-ſtuff, and extract from each its ſeparate juice, liquor, or gravy, as before. And the ſame machine will alſo, while the ſaid variety of fleſh, fiſh, and garden-ſtuff is boiling without water, roaſt, at the ſame fire, four or more different pieces of meat upon one ſpit, and any joint of meat, or other thing equally large, upon another ſpit; turning both ſpits by the ſame jack; and bake any kind of bread, biſcuits, meat, or pies, in an oven; at the ſame time that the vapours and dry fumes of herbs, flowers, ſeeds, roots, barks, gums, balſams, minerals, or other medicinal ſubſtances, may be eaſily conveyed into one, two, three or more rooms or beds of the houſe—priſons—hoſpitals—lazarettes—or men of war; and alſo applied to any degree of heat required, upon any part of the body, to cure and preſerve from contagious and dangerous diſeaſes, &c. &c. &c. In regard therefore of the great advantages ariſing from the ſaid machine, and that your petitioner is the firſt and ſole inventor thereof; he moſt humbly prays your Majeſty, to grant unto him, his executors, adminiſtrators, and aſſigns, your Majeſty's royal letters-patent, under the great ſeal of Great Britain, for the ſole uſe and benefit of his diſcovery or invention, within that part of your Majeſty's kingdom of Great Britain called *England*, your dominion of Wales, and town of Berwick upon Tweed, alſo your Colonies and Plantations abroad, for the term of fourteen years, according to the ſtatute in that caſe made and provided.

And your petitioner ſhall ever pray, &c.

BARTHOLOMEW DE DOMINICETI.

Dr Dominiceti humbly prays the legiſlature to obſerve, that this petition was preſented to his Majeſty, at St James's, on the 21ſt of Auguſt 1770; and, the latter end of October following, his Majeſty was pleaſed to grant his Royal letters-patent to the petitioner, for the ſole uſe and benefit of his machines, according to the prayer of the petition. The plan and ſpecification of the whole of the machines were, according to act of parliament, in December 1770, inrolled in the high court of chancery.

Since twelve months laſt paſt, the wonderfully advantageous effects, public and private, of the ſaid apparatus, have been daily improved, and clearly demonſtrated to ſeveral, at my houſe at Chelſea; and at only two hours notice, from any court or office the legiſlature ſhall judge proper, the whole will be put to work, to convince them of the infinite univerſal utility of this new diſcovery. And in bringing theſe moſt uſeful machines to the preſent great perfection, it has coſt the Doctor above 2000l. and ſeveral years of the moſt indefatigable labour; and above 6000l. ſince September laſt, in extending his apparatus of health at Chelſea, for the conveniency of all ranks of patients, if they were 300 a-day.

BARTHOLOMEW DE DOMINICETI.

London Chronicle, March 12. 1772.

MR URBAN, *April* 1772.

IN reading lately the life of the celebrated Dr Wilkins, I met with a paſſage that may be of great relief to perſons labouring under that moſt excruciating pain, a total ſuppreſſion of urine, of which terrible diſorder this great man, after eight days painful ſuffering, died.

The paſſage I refer to is in a note in the laſt volume of the *Biographia Britannica*, p. 4273. "A patient had laboured for ſeven or eight days under a total ſuppreſſion of urine. By trying with the catheter, there was not the leaſt appearance of a ſtone, nor a drop of water in his bladder. Hereupon Dr Baynard, ſuppoſing it might be the ſame caſe of which the learned Dr Wilkins died, cauſed the patient to take a quantity of acids in a convenient vehicle; by which ſecretion being preſently made, there was a great diſcharge of urine, and he was thereby reſtored to his health. And ſo it was found to be of other patients that laboured under ſuppreſſion of urine."

If this hint ſhould give relief to any perſon labouring under this calamity, I ſhall think myſelf happy in communicating it. And am, Sir, yours,

Gent. Mag. Y. D.

On

On the growth and manufacture of Flax.

LETTER IV. [126.]

HAving explained, at conſiderable length, what I apprehend to be the moſt effectual way of encouraging arts and manufactures in general, and pointed out ſome of thoſe circumſtances which prevent the culture of flax from being ſo general in Scotland as could be deſired; I now proceed to inquire into the moſt probable means of removing thoſe obſtacles that have ſtood in the way of our improvement in this reſpect, and to try if it be poſſible to point out ſuch meaſures as, if vigorouſly purſued by thoſe who wiſh to encourage this valuable branch of our commerce, might in all probability produce, in a ſhort time, the deſired effect.

I preſume it will appear evident to every one who has attentively conſidered this ſubject, that the chief obſtacle that prevents the more general culture of this uſeful plant in this country, is the want of a ready market for unmanufactured flax, and the neceſſary trouble and loſs that the farmer is ſubjected to on this account. It ought therefore to be the principal ſtudy of thoſe that wiſh to encourage this, in the firſt place to bend all their efforts towards removing this capital inconvenience. Were it poſſible to get a ſet of men eſtabliſhed in every corner of the country, whoſe ſole employment it was to buy rough flax from the farmer, and manufacture it like the *Lintboers* in Flanders, we might ſoon hope to ſee the culture of this plant as univerſal through this iſland as could be wiſhed for. But many are the circumſtances which concur to prevent the general eſtabliſhment of ſuch an order of men in our iſland. The firſt reflection that occurs upon this ſubject is, that if we would wiſh to have a body of men who were to be ſubſiſted by buying and manufacturing flax, we muſt neceſſarily ſuppoſe that there is flax in the country, that they may have it in their power to purchaſe and manufacture, otherwiſe they muſt of neceſſity ſtarve for want of employment. This inſtitution may therefore, it may be ſaid, be naturally expected to take place whenever the culture of flax is ſo general as to give encouragement to ſuch a body of men: it will naturally follow the other, but cannot precede it; and therefore our moſt ſtrenuous efforts at preſent ought to be directed towards encouraging farmers to rear flax; and if we can once effectuate this, the other will follow of courſe, and then every thing will go on in a regular *routine*, without any let or interruption whatever. This method of reaſoning is extremely natural, and may eaſily miſlead any one who is not very attentive to the conſequence of it; for it is juſt; as every one muſt be ſenſible, that ſuch an order of men cannot ſubſiſt in any country unleſs they have materials to work; and therefore they cannot eſtabliſh themſelves in any country, until the people of that country are in the uſe of rearing a conſiderable quantity of that article which furniſhes materials for carrying on their manufacture. But the misfortune is, that the mutual dependence of the farmer and the purchaſer upon one another is ſo neceſſary, that neither can exiſt without the other; ſo that nothing can induce the farmer to raiſe this crop but the certainty of a purchaſer for it.—What then ſhall be done done in this caſe? Muſt we abandon the attempt as impracticable? By no means. Since the purchaſer and the rearer of this crop have ſuch a natural dependence upon one another, as that one order of theſe cannot long exiſt without the other, what remains for us to do, but to ſhow an equal attention to each; to cheriſh and ſupport the one by a well-timed attention and humanity, till he is enabled to ſubſiſt himſelf; and to inſtruct and encourage the other, by affording him a certainty of being no loſer on any occaſion by propagating this crop, unleſs it ſhall be evidently his own fault? Both of which might probably be effected in the following manner.

In every undertaking of this kind, it is detrimental to the general deſign to graſp at too much, and it is always a much ſurer method of ſucceeding, to confine our efforts to a narrow ſphere, in which even a ſmall ſum of money, if properly applied, and the neceſſary attention to it long enough continued, would be more efficacious, than if a much larger ſum were employed in inconcluſive efforts upon a much-extended ſcale. For this reaſon I apprehend, that it would be of uſe for the Truſtees, or others who wiſh effectually to encourage this article, to bend their whole efforts at one time to ſome particular diſtrict, not larger than they found their funds could eaſily extend to, and be ſufficiently capable of beſtowing every encouragement upon

that they ſhould find neceſſary; nor diſcontinue their efforts, or extend their views to any other corner, till they had effectually eſtabliſhed this particular manufacture in that place; after which they might eaſily go on to another. Having this always in view, it would be proper for the Truſtees to make choice of ſome particular county or diſtrict in Scotland, of a moderate extent, as a field for their firſt efforts. In this diſtrict they ſhould reſolve to erect lint-mills, with houſes and apparatus complete for carrying on the manufacture, in convenient places, about ten or twelve miles from one another. Each of theſe mills ought to be put under the charge of a man of character, who ſhould underſtand completely every branch of the manufacture, and who ſhould have ſuch encouragement from the Truſtees as would put him beyond the fear of want, till the diſtrict around him ſhould be encouraged to rear as much flax as to enable him to ſubſiſt himſelf by his own buſineſs without any aſſiſtance whatever.

The next circumſtance that ſhould demand the attention of the Truſtees would be, to encourage the farmers around theſe mills to rear flax to keep them in employment. We will ſuppoſe that the diſtrict that they have made choice of, is one in which the ſoil is naturally well adapted for producing flax, but where it has hitherto been but little cultivated, and that therefore ſome method will be neceſſary to be taken to induce the farmers to try to cultivate it, and at the ſame time to inſtruct them in ſome of the moſt eſſential parts of the culture thereof. Here then is a proper field for premiums to be given; for although I apprehend that they can never be of much utility towards *eſtabliſhing* any practice in a country, they may ſurely be ſucceſsfully employed for *introducing* any art to the acquaintance of a nation, if judiciouſly employed: but as I imagine that the effects which premiums are capable of producing on arts has been generally miſunderſtood, and that the mode of diſtributing them is on many occaſions improper, I ſhall beg leave to explain myſelf a little more fully upon this head before I proceed.

When the general body of the people, in any one country, are ignorant of the practice of any particular art that the more enlightened men among them might be ſenſible would be of uſe to them to know and to practiſe, there is no other method that can be taken to make them acquainted with this particular art, but either to introduce among them perſons who are acquainted with the practice of it, who may teach them, or to offer ſuch encouragement to thoſe who may attempt to practiſe it, as ſhall induce them to exert themſelves to the utmoſt of their power to acquire a knowledge thereof: or, if they have acquired in general ſome degree of knowledge in that art, although they are ſtill in ſome reſpects imperfect, a premium offered at that period to any one who ſhall make any particular diſcovery therein, will be attended with the beſt conſequences; becauſe it whets the invention of individuals, and prompts every artificer of genius to make ſome improvement; and the one who ſhall obtain the prize is not only rewarded by *it*, but, as it likewiſe ſerves to point him out as excelling others, it induces many people to give him employment, ſo that he is happily rewarded for his induſtry and ingenuity, and the art that he practiſes is improved thereby. The premium, in this caſe, ought to be beſtowed upon him alone who has made the principal improvement; nor is it neceſſary to reward the others who have made attempts, although they have not ſo happily ſucceeded; becauſe, in making theſe efforts, they cannot have ſubjected themſelves to any conſiderable expence, and muſt, in time, reap profit from the improvement that they have made in their art by this very effort. But the caſe is widely different, when we come to conſider what is the beſt method of encouraging a farmer to cultivate any particular plant with which he is entirely, or in a great meaſure, unacquainted; for, in this caſe, he ſubjects himſelf to a certain loſs for a very uncertain profit. Every experiment that a farmer makes muſt be attended with a loſs to him if it ſhall not ſucceed; becauſe, if he had ſowed his ground with ſuch plants as he was acquainted with, he was ſure of reaping a crop, the value of which he could nearly aſcertain, which he abandons in hopes of obtaining a greater profit from the unknown crop that is recommended to his attention. Now, if this crop ſhould fail, he loſes what he certainly would have got by the other, and reaps little other ſervice from his unſucceſsful experiment, but to be laughed at by his neighbours, and rendered more

cautious

cautious for the future. Now, as there are peculiar foils, upon which almoſt every particular plant more naturally delights than in others, and as there are other peculiarities in the culture of almoſt every plant, which experience alone can fully teach, it is not ſurpriſing if the ſenſible part of farmers ſhould be a little ſhy in attempting to rear any plant with which they are in a great meaſure unacquainted, and for which they ſee no ready market at hand. But the young and giddy, ever apt to be hurried away by the ſuggeſtions of fancy, will not deliberately weigh all theſe circumſtances, and will be prone, of themſelves, to graſp at every tempting bait that is held up before them, although it ſhould not be gilded with the hopes of a premium to urge them forward. For theſe reaſons, I look upon it as being extremely detrimental to the intereſts of agriculture, to offer a few premiums to thoſe who ſhall cultivate the *greateſt quantity* of any particular kind of crop, as is uſually the caſe; becauſe it adds wings to the impetuous, who would rather need to be checked, and does not influence the judicious, whoſe experience alone could ever be of any extenſive uſe in caſes of this kind. I need hardly point out the conſequences that muſt attend this. The leaſt that can be expected is, that the youthful adventurer is imbarraſſed with difficulties that he did not foreſee, which gives additional poignancy to the ſarcaſms of the more cautious practitioner. I would, therefore, eſteem it more judicious, in all caſes of this kind, to give a ſmall premium to *every one*, within a certain diſtrict, who ſhould raiſe what ſhould be reckoned an ordinary crop upon a ſmall ſpot of ground, ſuppoſe one fourth or one eighth of an acre, and no more to thoſe who reared more than that quantity. This propoſal may perhaps appear a little abſurd to ſome, who conſider that our profeſſed deſign is to increaſe the quantity raiſed in the country; and that, by proceeding in this manner, we would ſeem to wiſh to diminiſh it, by confining our premiums chiefly to thoſe who ſhould rear but ſmall quantities: yet, notwithſtanding the paradoxical appearance of this propoſal, I hope, when examined into, it will be found to be better calculated than the other for the purpoſe intended. For let it be remembered, that premiums in this caſe are only of uſe to induce judicious people to try ſome particular new practice, with regard to which they are but little acquainted, the profits ariſing from which, it is always ſuppoſed, are evidently ſo great as to induce them to continue it after they are once made acquainted therewith; therefore it would be improper to give any great premium to ſuch as, being already ſenſible of the profits that might be reaped from this particular practice, had, on this account been induced to try it at large. Again, nothing ſo effectually induces any man to try an experiment as the certainty that he cannot be a loſer by it; and I have already ſhewed, that nothing is ſo ready to make one ſucceed in an experiment as to try it in a very ſmall quantity at firſt, as he will thus be enabled to beſtow upon it all the neceſſary care and attention without much trouble to himſelf; nor would any thing be ſo likely to produce this effect as this mode of giving premiums. Many individuals would be thus induced to try the plan, each of them having the aſſured certainty of being no loſer by it, and the greateſt probability of conducting their experiment properly with little trouble to themſelves; ſo that, if it was a crop that could be reared with advantage, they would thus have the beſt chance of feeling the whole of this, and of conſequence would naturally increaſe their quantity afterwards, if they found their profit in ſo doing. The premium will thus induce ſenſible men to give it a candid trial, and this is all that premiums ſhould ever attempt: if the practice ſhall be found profitable, it will be continued without any regard to the premiums; if it is not ſo, it certainly ought, and will be diſcontinued. I am not ignorant, however, of the trouble and expence that would attend this mode of diſtributing premiums; but if this cannot be ſubmitted to, it were better to diſcontinue them entirely than to throw away money in vain and fruitleſs attempts. I once knew a ſociety of private gentlemen, who ſet out upon this plan of giving premiums in a certain diſtrict; but their funds were quite exhauſted: for they committed an error in not reſtricting the competitors to thoſe alone who had ſowed only a ſmall quantity of ground. But it was really amazing to ſee what effect this produced in two years only that it was continued, the practice that they wiſhed to introduce into that diſtrict having been fully eſta-

blished during that time; nor is it in any danger of ever being again forgot.——

AGRICOLA.

LETTER V.

AS it would be neceſſary, at the ſame time, to ſupport the manufacturer, and encourage the farmer, if we would hope to ſucceed in encouraging the culture of flax in Scotland; if ever the Truſtees ſhould think proper to adopt the plan mentioned in my laſt, and had reſolved to put it in execution; and had agreed with workmen to build the mills, and made choice of proper perſons for carrying on the manufacture at the different mills, it would be of uſe to publiſh an advertiſement, in the month of October, to the following effect.

"THE T———s, &c. in Scotland, being ſenſible of the great loſs that the nation in general ſuſtains, and the diſadvantage that the farmers in many parts of this country labour under, from their total ignorance of the culture of flax, which, if properly underſtood, would, in many caſes, yield them a greater profit than any crop that they could rear, *have reſolved*, as much as is in their power, to remove thoſe bars that they imagine have hitherto, in general, prevented the more univerſal culture of this uſeful plant; and being convinced, that the want of proper mills for dreſſing flax, and proper perſons for taking care of theſe mills, and purchaſing from the farmers ſuch undreſſed lint as they might chuſe to diſpoſe of in that ſtate, is one of the greateſt inconveniencies that this branch of trade at preſent labours under, they *have reſolved*, the enſuing ſeaſon, to erect a lint-mill, with proper buildings and apparatus, for dreſſing flax, at each of the following places in the county of , viz. at , in the pariſh of , and at , in the pariſh of , &c. &c. &c.; and have agreed with men well ſkilled in this branch of manufacture, to take charge of each of theſe, who will either purchaſe from the farmer ſuch flax as he may chuſe to diſpoſe of, or dreſs it for himſelf, at ſuch reaſonable rate as he may incline.

And as a further encouragement to the farmers to rear this crop, the T——s do hereby offer a premium of ten ſhillings Sterling * to every farmer in the pariſhes of and , &c. &c. in the county of , who ſhall ſow, next ſeaſon, one ſixteenth part of a Scots acre of ground (one peck ſowing) with lintſeed, and ſhall take due care of it till it is ready for pulling; beſides ten pounds Sterling to the farmer, in any one of the above pariſhes, who ſhall have the beſt crop, and five to the ſecond, and three to the third, and two to the fourth: Every farmer, who ſhall ſow ſuch a quantity, being hereby deſired to acquaint Mr A. B. in the city of , on or before the firſt day of May next, by a note ſigned by himſelf, that he has ſowed with lintſeed the above quantity of ground; acquainting him, at the ſame time, with the name of the farm where it is ſowed, and pariſh in which the farm is ſituated: and, upon having received ſuch intimation, the ſaid Mr A. B. ſhall come, on or before the firſt of Auguſt next; and, having ſurveyed the ground, and examined the crop, ſhall immediately pay the premium aforeſaid; and, after having ſeen the whole, ſhall immediately adjudge, to the beſt of his knowledge, which of them ſhall be intitled to the four extraordinary premiums; and in caſe of any diſpute about this, it ſhall be determined by weighing each. And if any farmer ſhall chuſe to diſpoſe of his crop immediately after it is pulled, the T—— s hereby likewiſe acquaint them, that if it is pulled juſt when the bolls begin to turn yellow, [*or at any other period of the growth that the T———s may think more proper to mention inſtead of this*], they may carry it immediately to the mill that ſhall be neareſt or moſt agreeable to themſelves, where the miller will purchaſe it immediately from them, without farther trouble to themſelves, at the price of per ſtone-weight, if it has been pulled dry, and has not received any rain before weighing †, he paying

* The ſmallneſs of this premium may perhaps be laughed at by ſome; but I am diſpoſed to think, that even this ſmall ſum *certain*, with the proſpect of a larger, would produce a very conſiderable effect upon the farmers of any one diſtrict where flax has never yet been introduced.

† It would be neceſſary to make ſome fixed regulation with regard to weeds that might chance to be among the flax; becauſe, if the manufacturer were only obliged to take ſuch flax as was perfectly free from weeds, it would put the farmer too much in his power; and if no limitation were made in this reſpect, it would ſubject the manufacturer to the great inconveniencies of being obliged

paying the money for it at the term of Candlemas [or Whitſunday] after receiving it; the T———s becoming reſponſible for the price, if it ſhall not be paid before that time.

N. B. A crop of lint ſucceeds beſt when ſowed upon rich ground and clean. The ſecond crop after graſs, if the ground has been in good order, anſwers particularly well; the better that it is a little damp, provided that it is not a very tough clay, and can be ploughed at a proper ſeaſon, and kept free from ſtagnant water when the crop is upon it. No dreſſing anſwers better than lime. It ought to be ſowed in the month of March, or early in April; the ſurface of the ground made quite ſmooth before ſowing, well harrowed afterwards, and all ſtones and weeds carefully picked off. An ordinary crop of lint weighs, when new pulled, about ſtones per acre; ſometimes an acre has yielded ſtones, which, at the price above mentioned, would amount to l. Sterling.*"

The man who ſhould have the charge of ſurveying the crops, and paying the premiums, ought to be one well ſkilled in the culture of flax; and as he would have an occaſion of converſing with the farmer, and making his remarks upon the ſpot, he would have a good opportunity of pointing out with preciſion any errors that he might have fallen into, and give him his advice where to ſow it next ſeaſon, and how to conduct himſelf ſo as to inſure a good crop. Mankind are not averſe to follow the advice of any one that they are convinced has greater ſkill than themſelves; at leaſt when it relates to an article, of which they may be naturally ſuppoſed ignorant, without implying any reflection on their parts; and therefore the directions of a ſenſible man in this ſituation, given in this way, might be of prodigious utility.

It may be preſumed, that if this plan were fairly ſet on foot, and kept a-going, the premiums to the farmers, in any one diſtrict, might be diſcontinued after the ſecond, or at leaſt the third year; for, by that time, they would be ſufficiently acquainted with the manner of cultivating this crop, and have alſo felt the profits that would attend it: but if ever ſuch a ſcheme were ſet on foot, it would be neceſſary to take particular care not to offer the farmers too high a price for their unwrought flax at firſt. It would be beſt to have this fixed as near its intrinſic value as poſſible, leſt, by putting it too low, the farmers ſhould not find it worth their while to cultivate it: but as it is impoſſible to aſcertain this exactly, it would be better to fix it rather below than above the medium; for extravagant profits are by no means neceſſary to inſure the culture of any plant, as the certainty of a reaſonable profit will always be ſufficiently powerful to produce this effect: and to inſure this certainty, the Truſtees ought to take an obligation from every man to whom they intruſted a mill, binding himſelf, under very ſevere penalties, never to lower the price fixed for unwrought flax, without the conſent of the Truſtees; and not only to this, but alſo to purchaſe all the flax that ſhould be offered to him by any farmer, till he had as much as his mill could manufacture in one ſeaſon; by which means the farmer would ever be inſured of a prompt and ready market near himſelf, that he could rely upon at all times with abſolute certainty, which would be a ſufficient encouragement to him, unleſs the prices were exceedingly low. That would not, in all probability, ever be the caſe, if guarded againſt for a ſhort time at the beginning.

The perſon who would probably feel the greateſt inconvenience from this inſtitution at firſt, would be the miller; for as it might reaſonably be preſumed, that, for a few years at firſt, the quantity of flax produced would be but inconſiderable, unleſs the profits upon that ſmall quantity were very great, he would, without aſſiſtance, in all probability, be reduced to ſuch ſtraits as might depreſs his ſpirits, and make him perform his work imperfectly. For theſe reaſons, it would be neceſſary for the Truſtees to be

to receive weedy lint. To prevent theſe abuſes on each hand, it would be neceſſary to publiſh a particular advertiſement, a copy of which to be always kept in each mill, declaring, that the miller was obliged to receive (and he ſhould be bound to this in his leaſe) all ſuch flax as was offered to him, if upon examination, it did not, on an average, contain above a certain proportion (which ought at that time to be aſcertained and expreſſed) of its whole weight of weeds; but that, if there was more than that proportion in it, the miller ſhould not be obliged to receive it.

* I have not ventured to fill up theſe blanks. That may be done by the T——s.

be favourable to him for a year or two at firſt; but if the affairs of this infant ſociety are attended to with care, it is not to be doubted, but that, in a ſhort time, the farmers will raiſe abundance to keep him in conſtant employment, and, after that period, he will make money in plenty. It is at this period that he would be in danger, if left to himſelf, of lowering the price of rough flax to the farmer, or of refuſing to purchaſe it from him; and it is to guard againſt the harm that might be expected to ariſe from this, that I have adviſed to require him to enter into the obligation above mentioned. In conſequence of having this ready and certain market, the farmers will be thus induced to rear a great deal of flax; and then, in conſequence of the great employment that the manufacturer meets with, and the moderate price that he pays for his rough materials, he will make money quickly. His neighbours, now perceiving that this is a profitable buſineſs, will erect new mills. Theſe will purchaſe flax alſo. A competition will be eſtabliſhed, which is the ſureſt method of aſcertaining the farmer that he ſhall receive the full value for his crop, and the buſineſs will be afterwards carried on in the way that every open trade muſt fall into at laſt; that is, every perſon concerned will be allowed profit, greater or ſmaller, according to his degree of ſkill or induſtry, without allowing it to be in the power of any one perſon to make a fortune at the expence of the others.

The only objection of conſequence that I foreſee might be made againſt this ſcheme, is the great expence that muſt of neceſſity attend it. I have endeavoured to obviate, in ſome meaſure, the force of this objection, by propoſing, that the efforts made to eſtabliſh this practice ſhould be confined to a ſmall ſphere, proportioned to the funds that could be allotted for this purpoſe; but leſt ſome might think that the influence produced upon the whole by theſe partial applications would be very inconſiderable, I ſhall attempt to give a ſlight ſketch of what might probably be the effects of continuing to appropriate a moderate ſum for this purpoſe, for ſome years, with ſteadineſs.

I will ſuppoſe, that few gentlemen whoſe eſtates ſtand in need of this improvement, would ſcruple to give the Truſtees a leaſe, for twenty years, of as much ground as was neceſſary for carrying on their operations, for a very ſmall rent, or nothing at all, upon condition, that, at the end of that period, the mill and houſes, and all the apparatus (being kept in good repair), ſhall become the ſole property of the landlord. Let us then ſuppoſe, that they obtain the ground upon theſe conditions; that the expence of erecting the mill, &c. amounts to 250 l.*; that, beſides this original expence, they found it neceſſary to allow the miller a gratuity of 50 l. for the firſt year, of 30 l. for the ſecond, and of 10 l. for the third; the whole expence upon the mill would be 340 l. Sterling, beſides 100 l. which, I ſuppoſe, it might be expedient for them to lend the manufacturer for nine or ten years at 5 l. *per cent.* to enable him the better to carry on his buſineſs with eaſe and facility. Let us likewiſe ſuppoſe, that it would be neceſſary to beſtow premiums upon the farmers to the amount of 100 l. a-year, for two years, for each mill, which, added to the 440 l. before mentioned, amounts, in all, to 640 l. beſtowed by the Truſtees upon each mill.

But we muſt not look upon this money as entirely ſunk, as I ſee nothing to prevent them from executing their deſign effectually, and recovering a great part of their money again before the end of their leaſe. At firſt it is, indeed, neceſſary to advance money to the manufacturer, and to ſupport him for ſome time; but after he is once eſtabliſhed in buſineſs, he may, in all probability, be able to afford to repay at leaſt part of it again. Let us ſuppoſe, then, that the Truſtees find it neceſſary to demand nothing from him for the firſt four years, only diminiſhing his annual allowance as above mentioned. On the fifth year, I do not ſuppoſe that it would be any hardſhip upon him to pay the Truſtees two *per cent.* for the money that had been expended by them upon himſelf and mill; on the ſixth year four *per cent.* ſeventh year ſix *per cent.* eighth year eight *per cent.* and ninth, and every ſucceeding year, ten *per cent.* for the whole ſum advanced on his account, except for the 100 l. lent him, which bears intereſt, from the beginning, at five *per cent.* and never

* I am not much acquainted with things of this nature, but think I have placed it rather high. A little variation up or down will make but little difference in the following calculations.

advances

advances higher. Upon these suppositions, the account, at the end of twenty years, would stand as under.

Money advanced by the Trustees.

1st year, for the mill, 250 l. premiums 100 l. miller's gratuity 50 l. lent 100 l.; in all advanced the first year	L. 500
2d year, premiums 100 l. gratuity to the miller 30 l. -	130
3d year, gratuity to the miller	10
Total money advanced	L. 640

They would draw back as under.

2d year, interest for 100 l.	L. 5
3d year, ditto - -	5
4th year, ditto - -	5
5th year, ditto, and 2 *per cent.* of 350 l. advanced on the miller's account	12
6th year, ditto, and 4 *per cent.* -	19
7th year, ditto, and 6 *per cent.* -	26
8th year, ditto, and 8 *per cent.* -	33
9th year, ditto, and 10 *per cent.* -	40
10th year, ditto and ditto, the 100 l. now repaid - -	140
11th year, 10 *per cent.* of 350 l. is 35 l. continued for ten years, till the twenty years are expired -	350
Total returned in 20 years	L. 635

which is the whole sum advanced, excepting only 5 l. Sterling.

Let us now suppose, that 4000 l. * could be appropriated to this use each year, and continued for twenty years, I find, by a calculation upon the data above mentioned, that there might be erected the number of mills each year as under, viz.

Y.† M.	Y. M.	Y. M.	Y. M.	Y. M.
1.—8	5.—6	9 — 8	13.— 10	17 —13
2.—6	6.— 7	10.— 9	14 —11	18.—13
3.—6	7.— 7	11 —10	15 —12	19.—14
4.—6	8.— 7	12.—10	16.—12	20.—14

In all, 189.

so that 4000 l. a-year laid out for this purpose, would be sufficient to erect one hundred and eighty-nine mills in twenty years, which might probably be sufficient to establish this manufacture upon such a footing as that it would never afterwards be in danger of standing in need of any other encouragement. You will please likewise to observe, that I have made the calculation in the most unfavourable circumstances that could be devised: for, if we had supposed that any of the mills had been erected in those parts of the country where the culture of flax is at all known, a very considerable proportion of the money might have been saved on each, so that a greater number could be erected with the same sum; but it is always best to make calculations rather moderate as otherwise, seeing that some circumstances almost always occur to make them fall short of what we would have expected.

But we must not here stop with our calculation; for as the Trustees will continue to draw a revenue from each mill till twenty years after it has been erected, it is proper that we show what sums they will draw from these each year till the fortieth year; which, by a calculation similar to the former, I find would be as under.

Y. L.	Y. L.	Y. L.	Y. L.
21.—3624	26.—6526	31.—3815	36 —1990
22.—5601	27.—6412	32.—3465	37.—1535
23.—5929	28.—6300	33.—3115	38.—1080
24.—6336	29.—5950	34 —2730	39.— 590
25.—6444	30 —4165	35.—2310	40.— 100

In all, 78,017 l. or 3,900 l. *per ann.*

so that, at the end of forty years, the Trustees would be out of pocket only 2000 l. and the country be in possession of about 200 lint-mills kept in constant employment. I cannot therefore imagine that this scheme would be considered as extremely expensive.

If what I have said upon this important subject shall induce some abler pen to undertake it, I shall be satisfied. Nor need he be afraid of giving me offence, by pointing out the fallacy of any argument that I may have accidentally employed. My ardent desire to be of use to my fellow-creatures may, perhaps, sometimes hurry me too far: but as the happiness of mankind is what I chiefly wish to promote, and as the search after truth is the principal object of all my disquisitions, I will always voluntarily side with him who best points out the methods of attaining these valuable purposes, whether it chances to coincide with my former opinions or not. With these sentiments I ever remain, *&c.*

AGRICOLA.

Week. Mag.

* It appears by an advertisement [on the cover of our last December Magazine], that the Trustees have appropriated 2415 l. for premiums, to encourage the growth of flax for each of the years 1772, 1773, and 1774.

† Y. denotes Years, M. Mills.

Mr URBAN, *April* 1772.

HAving favoured my observations upon the high price of provisions with a place in your useful miscellany [116.], give

give me leave to lay before the public ſome additional thoughts on the ſame ſubject, with a view to remove the prejudices of thoſe well-meaning writers, who, not having ſufficient opportunities of information, judge only from appearances, and, being deceived themſelves, endeavour to propagate their falſe notions throughout the kingdom, to the manifeſt hazard of the public peace.

I have charity enough, however, to believe, that the ſole aim of theſe writers is to point out methods by which the calamity complained of may be alleviated; but, by miſtaking the cauſe, the remedies they recommend have a natural tendency to increaſe the diſtreſs, and, inſtead of relieving the poor, to render them deſperate.

The poor are every-where ripe for riot and miſchief, and, by miniſtering to their paſſions, and encouraging their prejudices, it cannot be long before they break out into outrage. It is therefore highly indiſcreet, to raiſe a clamour upon ſpecious pretences, without being certain of the facts by which ſuch pretences are to be ſupported; and it is alſo highly criminal, to exaſperate the multitude againſt any ſet of men employed in a juſt and neceſſary calling, unleſs it can be proved, that theſe men are actually in combination to purſue that calling by unwarrantable and oppreſſive means. To ſuppoſe that the dealers in proviſions are all in combination to with-hold their reſpective articles in trade from market, in order to occaſion an artificial dearth, is to ſuppoſe an impoſſible thing. They are too numerous and extended a body ever to be brought into combination; and a man might as well undertake to unite the poles, as to bring ſuch a diſtant and diſperſed multitude into a ſcheme of trade by which their poor fellow-ſubjects were to be deprived of food. Were the depravity of mens hearts equal to the enormity of the offence, their ſeparate intereſts, and their ſeparate neceſſities, would compel them to break through ſuch a combination, which, did plenty prevail, could not ſubſiſt in this or any other country for a ſingle day.

But, not to waſte time in refuting the extravagant notion of a general combination, I ſhall endeavour to prove another popular notion no leſs abſurd, though univerſally believed to be a cauſe of the preſent dearth; that is, the great increaſe of rents within theſe laſt thirty years, by which, it is urged, that the farmer is in ſome meaſure compelled to increaſe the price of his products, in order to pay his landlord the increaſed rent of his land. This argument is plauſible, but it is not juſt. It ſuppoſes that the land-owner arbitrarily raiſes the rent of his lands; and that the farmer, in conſequence of that riſe, as arbitrarily raiſes the price of his products: —than which nothing can be more fallacious. The increaſe of rent is the natural conſequence of improvement in agriculture, and improvement in agriculture is a ſelf-evident cauſe of plenty. Whoever is converſant in ruſtic affairs, knows, that lands highly improved will bring double the rent that lands out of condition will bring; and that farmers who occupy ſuch highly-improved lands do not depend upon an advanced price on their products for the payment of the increaſed rents, but upon the exceſs of the produce, *communibus annis*, to be diſpoſed of at the current price of the times. It is therefore evidently for want of proper information that ſuch a notion can be entertained or propagated, as the very principle on which the increaſe of rent is founded, has a manifeſt tendency to enlarge the produce, and by conſequence to keep down the price of it. And happy it is for this nation, that it has uniformly, for a ſeries of years paſt, been attended with that effect; otherwiſe the people who now murmur at the preſent dearth, muſt, at this very hour, have been feeling all the miſery of an abſolute famine, in like manner as it is partially felt in other European countries where huſbandry is leſs improved.

But to ſhew the fallacy of ſpeculative reaſoning upon this ſubject, I ſhall appeal to facts, by which it will appear, That within theſe laſt thirty years (the period aſſumed for the gradual increaſe of rents) bread-corn and other grain have been ſold cheaper for a given number of ſucceſſive years in England, than in any equally extenſive period in the memory of man; and that, at the ſame time that grain of every kind was ſold cheaper at home, we returned MILLIONS in ready money for grain exported abroad. The facts that I ſhall refer to are incontrovertible; they are the weekly prices at Bear-key and Mark-lane. But as a recapitulation of the whole would take up too much room, I have ſelected the prices

prices at one certain ſeaſon of the year, as the common average; and that the leaſt exceptionable of any, the markets at that ſeaſon (namely the latter end of January) being liable neither to be influenced by the neceſſity of ſelling grain to pay rent on the one hand, nor to be with-held from market by the intervention of more neceſſary buſineſs on the other. The following table muſt, I think, be convincing.

Prices of grain per quarter at Bear-key and Mark-lane, for fifteen ſucceſſive years.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
Jan.	*s.*	*s.*	*s.*	*s.*	*s.*	*s.*
1742	26 to	29	15 —	20	12 —	15
1743	20 —	23	15 —	20	13 —	16
1744	19 —	21	11 —	13	9 —	12
1745	18 —	20	12 —	15	12 —	16
1746	17 —	24	10 —	13	12 —	14
1747	27 —	30	8 —	12	7 —	11
1748	26 —	28	13 —	14	9 —	12
1749	27 —	32	17 —	18	14 —	16
1750	24 —	27	14 —	17	12 —	13
1751	24 —	27	14 —	17	12 —	13
1752	20 —	25	10 —	13	9 —	11
1753	29 —	35	17 —	18	10 —	12
1754	27 —	33	17 —	19	12 —	13
1755	24 —	26	12 —	14	10 —	13
1756	22 —	26	14 —	15	12 —	13 6

By the above authentic regiſter, it appears, that, for the firſt fifteen years of the laſt period of thirty, the average price of wheat amounted only to 27s. 9d. the quarter; the average price of barley to 15s. and the average price of oats to 12s. 3d. And, during this period of unparallelled plenty, ſuch quantities of grain were ſent up the Streights, as brought in return ſuch plenty of ſpecie, that our payments were almoſt all made in Portugal gold; and in one year 400,000 quarters of wheat were ſold to France by contract, at 50s. per quarter, beſides the freight. Will any one ſay, that this abundance was occaſioned by the lowneſs of rents, the want of taxes, by depopulation, by the ſmall number of horſes, by the diminutive ſize of the metropolis, by not incloſing commons, by not enlarging farms, by opulent farmers, by the non-exiſtence of ingroſſers, mealmen, millers, bakers, butchers, ſaleſmen, &c. &c.? If therefore none of theſe things operated to produce plenty, why ſhould the exceſs of them be now ſuppoſed to occaſion dearth? With regard to farmers and dealers with-holding their commodities from market, if ever there is a temptation for opulent men to do this, in order to cauſe an artificial dearth, it muſt be when their commodities are at ſo low a price, that the ſale of them muſt be attended with loſs. But it will appear, from one very ſtriking inſtance, that, even in thoſe plentiful years, when farmers who had but moderate crops muſt loſe by every kind of grain they ſold, that the quantities with-held from market were then not ſo conſiderable as to keep the prices moderate for one ſingle year. The inſtance I mean is, that, though in the beginning of the year 1756, the beſt wheat was ſold in Mark-lane for 26s. a-quarter, the latter end of the ſame year, by reaſon only of one intervening ſcanty harveſt, the ſame kind of wheat was ſold in the ſame market for FORTY-SEVEN ſhillings the quarter. This inſtance is the more extraordinary, as it happened immediately after fifteen years of uninterrupted plenty. But another inſtance I ſhall mention is ſtill more ſtriking, and proves to demonſtration the almoſt incredible effect that one ſingle failing crop, or one ſingle plentiful crop, has upon the price of grain, and by conſequence upon that of proviſions in general; and that is, that though a ſcanty harveſt, as has been ſaid, in 1756, and another in 1757, had raiſed the price of wheat to 50s. a-quarter in the London market, about the beginning of 1758; yet, by the intervention of a plentiful harveſt, the price was again reduced to 33s. before the latter end of the ſame year; and in January 1759, it fell to 30s. If theſe inſtances do not direct to the true cauſe of the preſent dearth, all reaſoning upon the ſubject were vain. Conſult the annals of the times, as recorded in your Magazine, and they will ſhew, that, about the latter end of 1756, the diſtreſs was ſo great, that the people were up in arms in ſeveral parts of the kingdom, and committed outrages upon the dealers in proviſions, as they now threaten to do, being then under the ſame deluſion that prevails at this day, that the dealers were the cauſe of the ſcarcity. But, in 1758, their wants were relieved by a ſeaſon of plenty; and what all the devices of man could not effect, was reſtored at once by the bountiful hand of Providence.

It were needleſs to ſhew how much the price of other proviſions depends upon the price of grain. When the ſeaſons are friendly to the production of corn, they are generally favourable to that of graſs and other vegetables, by which all animals are fed; and when the

food of animals is cheap, their fleſh will be cheap of courſe. This being granted, it remains only to ſhew the almoſt incredible difference between the produce of a ſcanty crop and that of a plentiful one in England, in order to confirm the inſtances already given of the effect of each upon the market-price: and though, in this inveſtigation, the ſame certainty cannot be attained as in the former inſtances; yet, the baſis being true, the calculations founded upon it cannot be very erroneous.

It is generally computed, that the forty counties of England contain about thirty-five millions of acres. Allowing therefore half that quantity for commons, waſtes, ſeites of towns, ſeats of gentry, &c. there will remain 17,500,000 acres to be employed in paſture and arable; 5,000,000 of which is a large allowance for the former, and will leave only 12,500,000 acres for the plough. Of this quantity, 2,500,000 muſt be ſet apart for fallowing, and of the remaining ten millions four muſt be allotted for beans, peaſe, oats, rye, and other food, conſumed chiefly by cattle; three millions for barley, and three millions for wheat,—a more moderate computation than is uſually made. If this method of diſtribution be allowed to approach nearly to the truth, then (ſetting aſide all other grain) it may fairly be inferred, that, upon an average of five ſacks or twenty buſhels to an acre, in a plentiful year, there grows in England 60,000,000 of buſhels, or 7,500,000 quarters of bread-corn. But, in a ſcanty year, three ſacks and a half, or fourteen buſhels to an acre, is a very high average, and is more, perhaps, than has been produced in any of the laſt five years; but, admitting this to be the average, the produce will then be 42,000,000 of buſhels, or 5,200,000 quarters — a deficiency of 2,200,000 quarters, which, at 40s. a quarter, amounts to 2,400,000l. in money: And, ſuppoſing a like deficiency in the other ſorts of grain, (which are moſtly, except barley, conſumed, as has been ſaid, by cattle), does not every man ſee what a prodigious effect ſuch a difference muſt make in the price of proviſions! Of beans, peaſe, and oats, we ſeldom exported much; therefore, in years of plenty, theſe were chiefly conſumed at home: muſt not then the want of 2,200,000 quarters of animal food occaſion an immenſe difference in the price of fat animals? and muſt not the want of 2,200,000 quarters of bread-corn greatly diſtreſs the human ſpecies, even allowing an exceſs of one million of quarters for exportation in years of plenty?

If theſe examples, and theſe arguments are not convincing, I muſt quit the ſubject, having none ſtronger to urge.

Yours, &c. Y. D.

Mr URBAN, *April* 1772.

BEing an admirer of improvements in mechanics, and deſirous of ſeeing the perpetual motion diſcovered, I was much pleaſed on reading, ſome time ago, an account of the Automaton conſtructed by Orffyreus [xxxiii. 147.], in two letters, one from Profeſſor s'Graveſande to Sir Iſaac Newton, the other from Baron Fiſcher to Dr Deſaguliers, with the teſtimonial of the Landgrave of Heſſe-Caſſel (who had ſeen the inſide of it) in favour of its conſtruction. To which are added, ſome remarks by William Kenrick, the writer of the pamphlet, who takes that opportunity to propoſe a ſubſcription for a ſimilar machine, which he ſays he has contrived, and denominated a *Rotator*.

It is much to be lamented, that the learned did not examine more ſtrictly into the merit of Orffyreus's wheel; but, on the contrary, being prepoſſeſſed with a notion of the impracticability of the perpetual motion, ſuffered it to be neglected, and at laſt deſtroyed by the hands of the diſappointed mechanic, who, with unwearied application, and ſteady perſeverance, had brought it to perfection. I wiſh we may not again let ſlip an opportunity of becoming acquainted with an invention, which, when made public, will reflect honour on the inventor, and be of the utmoſt utility to the world. Such, I would hope, is the Rotator mentioned by W. Kenrick. For, unleſs his diſcovery were real, I cannot think that he would have taken the liberty to expreſs himſelf as he does in p. 26. &c. "The inventor flatters himſelf, that if the contents of the foregoing pages are ſeriouſly attended to, and it be farther conſidered, that not a penny of the propoſed premium is required, till the ſubſcribers are fully ſatisfied of the reality and utility of the invention, his propoſal will not be treated with ſo mortifying a neglect as was that of Orffyreus." Again he ſays, "If it does not ſupply the place of a firſt mover, at the expence only of the conſtruction and repair of a ſimple wheel, ſubject to very little friction,

tion, and that in all such engines and machines, even from the slightest piece of clock-work to the water-works of Marli or London-bridge, he expects nothing for his discovery, but to stand exposed to the contempt that will be justly thrown on him, for having so miserably misspent his time, and frivolously engaged the attention of the public."

Now, I think that W. Kenrick's proposals are very fair; and should be glad to be informed, whether any attention has been paid to them, and whether Sir Isaac Newton took any notice of the letter addressed to him by Professor s'Gravesande. I shall consider it as a favour, if any correspondent will oblige me with an answer to these particulars.

A constant reader.

To the author of the SCOTS MAGAZINE.

SIR, *April* 1772.

IN the year 1769 you gave us an argument against the Formula, from its being enacted without transmission to presbyteries. [xxxi. 121. xxxii. 201.]

Please acquaint your readers, that this argument was founded on a mistake. From the MS. acts of assembly 1711, it will appear, to any person who will take pains to examine the same, that "The Questions and Formula had been transmitted to presbyteries in the larger overtures, and returned with their remarks thereon," before assent and subscription thereunto was made necessary to being licensed or ordained, or admitted to any parish within this church. Phileleutherus's reasoning therefore, conclusive as some might think it, falls to the ground, and the act establishing said Formula and Questions is as valid and binding as any other rule and constitution of the church.

By inserting this information in your next Magazine, you will oblige, &c.

PHILALETHES.

[We remember, that when this dispute was in agitation, some persons were of opinion, that an inquiry, Whether the imposition of the Formula and Questions under consideration was authorised and required by the word of God? would be a subject more worthy of discussion, than the inquiry, Whether the established forms had been strictly observed in passing the act by which they were imposed? for that if the first question should be clearly resolved in the negative, the act should be rescinded; and if in the affirmative all doubts concerning it should be removed, and defects in it supplied, by a new act.]

LONDON MAGAZINE.

A sketch of the constitution of the Church of Scotland, and the state of parties in it at present; with specimens of the oratory of some of the most distinguished members of that church now living.

THE church, or, as it has been called, *kirk*, of Scotland, exhibits an example of one of the most regular and best-contrived republics that has ever existed. The church of Rome resembles a vast monarchy. The Pope is sovereign, and has under him different ranks and gradations of office-bearers. His dominions are extended wide over the world, and his converted or conquered provinces have in different ages increased. In the huge machine of his imperial government, we may say that there are both civil and military departments. His cardinals, and other ecclesiastics, are like counsellors of state. His religious orders are like to many regiments under the command of *Generals*, the title indeed which is assumed by the heads or leaders of all the orders. At the reformation from Popery, zeal was carried rather farther in Scotland than in any other country of Europe. The famous *John Knox*, and those who joined him, not contented with demolishing what had been superadded in the lapse of time to what was considered as pure Christianity, determined to go as far as possible from the church which they left. We may regret their rough treatment of every thing grand and ornamental in the external appearance of the church. But we must own, that they formed such a constitution as the greatest lovers of liberty and equality must admire.

At what time Scotland was divided into parishes, is not exactly known. Certain it is, that, with a very few variations, they have for ages been the same as at this day; and, every thing considered, they are laid out with much equality. There are in all above nine hundred and fifty clergy in the church of Scotland [xxxi. 180.]. A plurality of benefices is not permitted amongst them; though some parishes which have become very populous, especially in towns, have had additional endowments, and an additional number of clergy. John Knox allowed of superintendents in the church, who were something of the nature of bishops: but now there is no distinction

whatever of rank among the clergy, but there is a perfect *Preſbyterian parity*.

Peculiar to the church of Scotland is the inſtitution of what are called *lay elders*. Theſe are certain diſcreet and exemplary men, choſen and ſet apart in every pariſh. Their buſineſs is, to aſſiſt the miniſter in managing the poor's money, in viſiting the ſick, in adminiſtrating the communion, and in taking care of the morals of the pariſhioners. Their office is a mixture of that of church-wardens in England, and the loweſt rank of prieſthood in Roman-Catholic countries. In ſome pariſhes, they are more, in ſome leſs numerous. Two of them, along with the miniſter, who is perpetual preſident, make a quorum ſufficient to hold a Church (or Kirk) Seſſion, which is the loweſt judicature of the church of Scotland.

The next higheſt court of the church of Scotland is a Preſbytery. Of theſe there are ſeventy-ſeven in Scotland, each conſiſting of a number of contiguous pariſhes. The number of pariſhes is various, according to the ſituation of the country. Where the country is wild, uncultivated, and thinly inhabited, there are but few pariſhes in a preſbytery. Where it is well cultivated, and well inhabited, there are many. The miniſters of the pariſhes compoſing the diſtrict of a preſbytery, with one elder choſen half-yearly out of every kirk-ſeſſion, compoſe the eccleſiaſtical court called a *Preſbytery*.

Next in authority are Provincial Synods, each of which conſiſts of a number of the adjacent preſbyteries. There are in all fifteen ſynods: and they have the power of reviewing the ſentences of the preſbyteries within their bounds; as the preſbyteries have a power of reviewing the ſentences of the kirk-ſeſſions within their bounds.

The ſupreme eccleſiaſtical court in Scotland is the General Aſſembly. It has the title of THE VERY VENERABLE AND VERY REVEREND ASSEMBLY OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND. It has been called the *eccleſiaſtical parliament* in Scotland. It conſiſts of commiſſioners annually choſen by preſbyteries, royal boroughs, and univerſities. A preſbytery conſiſting of leſs than twelve miniſters, ſends two miniſters and one elder. If it contains between eighteen and twenty-four miniſters, it ſends four miniſters and two elders. Every royal borough ſends one elder; and Edinburgh, as the capital, ſends two. Every univerſity ſends one commiſſioner, who is uſually a clergyman of their own body. A moderator, or ſpeaker of the houſe, is choſen by majority of voices. Preſbyteries and ſynods in the ſame manner chuſe moderators. Theſe are now always clergymen; though a lay elder has been known to have been moderator of the General Aſſembly. The famous George Buchanan held that office. The elders, who are ſent as commiſſioners to the eccleſiaſtical (or kirk) courts, get the denomination of *Ruling Elders*.

In a civil view it is, no doubt, very prudent and proper, that there ſhould be a proportion of laymen in the church-courts, to form a balance againſt the clergy, and check any ſpirit of clerical uſurpation which might ariſe. But the authority for admitting laymen into a ſhare of the government of the Chriſtian church is not very clear. The truth is, the church of Scotland was formed at a time when laymen were in a manner up in arms againſt the tyranny of the clergy, or perhaps indeed againſt the riches of the clergy, of which they obtained a noble ſpoil; and therefore the laymen had it in their power to make ſuch a proviſion for their own influence. Of late, ſome of the clergy have begun to think, that it is rather ſtrange to have points, both of faith and diſcipline, ſettled by a vote in which the laity have a great ſhare. In the ſynod of Glaſgow and Ayr a queſtion occurred, about two years ago, Whether a ſermon, which had been delivered by a young divine as part of his trials for the office of the miniſtry, was orthodox or not? Upon that occaſion, a Rev. Gentleman ſuggeſted, that it would be decent for the lay elders to leave the determination of ſuch points to the clergy; and he gave the example of the Houſe of Lords, where the deciſion of appeals is uſually left to what are called the *Law-Lords* [xxxii. 629.]. This produced a great ferment; and the elders ſtill continue to maintain their full privileges.

As the office of elder is very popular in a country as yet much attached to its religion, and as being a commiſſioner to the General Aſſembly affords an admirable opportunity for the exerciſe of public ſpeaking, numbers of the firſt gentlemen, and even noblemen, in the country, get themſelves choſen elders. This is ſaid to be, in many inſtances, an abuſe

of

of an office which claims to be in ſome meaſure ſacred; for as the clergy are in many pariſhes very naturally inclined to humour thoſe of higher rank, men of character and conduct hardly Chriſtian, at leaſt not very exemplary, are made elders. The General Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland then may be conſidered as, in ſome reſpects, a popular aſſembly; but, at the ſame time, perhaps the moſt learned aſſembly of men that now meet for deliberation as a court, or tribunal, or legiſlative body. It not only tries eccleſiaſtical cauſes in the laſt eccleſiaſtical reſort, from which there is no appeal to the civil courts, as in England, but enacts laws with regard to eccleſiaſtical affairs; and the *Acts of Aſſembly* make a pretty conſiderable bulk.

The King names, every year, a commiſſioner to repreſent his perſon in the General Aſſembly, and to take care that nothing be done againſt the ſtate. This is conſidered as a very honourable office. It is forgotten that the Commiſſioner is, in one view, a ſpy of the crown, and a check upon the church; and he is looked upon only as giving countenance to the church by repreſenting the ſovereign. He is generally a Peer of Scotland; and, though choſen annually, may be rechoſen for as many years as the King pleaſes. He has the title of HIS MAJESTY'S HIGH COMMISSIONER, and is addreſſed *your Grace*. He ſits upon a throne, erected under a canopy of crimſon velvet, in the iſle of the church of St Giles, or New Church, in Edinburgh, where the Aſſembly meets; and he is preſent at all their deliberations. He delivers a ſpeech at the opening of the Aſſembly, and alſo at the riſing of it; and on both occaſions he is addreſſed with a ſpeech from the Moderator. He does not ſpeak during the courſe of the Aſſembly, unleſs ſomething improper ſhould be thrown out in the debate. But, indeed, he generally allows full freedom of ſpeech. The Aſſembly ſits down in the month of May, continues about twelve days, and riſes in June; and, during the courſe of it, my Lord Commiſſioner appears in great pomp and ſtate, richly dreſſed, and with a number of ſervants. His commiſſion is carried before him, in a large crimſon velvet purſe, by a gentleman whom he appoints his purſe-bearer, and who is preceded by the King's heritable uſher, with his ſilver rod, and four other uſhers in white cloaths; and his Grace is followed by two young pages alſo in white. And then come a number of the noblemen and gentlemen of Scotland. On the day when the Aſſembly ſits down, and on the two Sundays during the time it ſits, the Commiſſioner walks in grand proceſſion to and from church, the ſtreets being lined with ſoldiers, partly with the city-guard of Edinburgh, partly with the regiment lying at Edinburgh for the time. He has 1000l. from the King to defray his charges: and he keeps two public tables for dinner every day; the one is called *the Commiſſioner's table*, at which he himſelf preſides, the other is called *the Miniſter's* [more properly *the Purſe-bearer's*] *table*, at which the Purſe-bearer preſides. All the members are invited to dine with the Commiſſioner once, ſome of them oftener, and the Moderator conſtantly. The parade at the time of the General Aſſembly is all the ſhew that Scotland, which in ancient times had ſo much, has now remaining.

It ſeldom happens, that the ſitting of the General Aſſembly laſts longer than from the Thurſday, on which day it always begins, till the Monday ſe'nnight thereafter. But, for the diſpatch of buſineſs, there is what is called the *Commiſſion of the General Aſſembly*, which ſits ſome days after it, according as there is much buſineſs, or as the members will ſtay. All who were members of the Aſſembly, may take their places in the Commiſſion, which therefore may be called a committee of the whole houſe. Although many of the members go away when the Aſſembly riſes, the Commiſſion is always a court of conſiderable importance. The ſame Moderator who ſat in the Aſſembly, continues*. Counſel appear

* [The Commiſſion is named by the Aſſembly; and conſiſts uſually of all the members of the Aſſembly, with ſome others added. This court has four ſtated ſeſſions, at Edinburgh; the firſt beginning the day after the Aſſembly riſes, the ſecond in Auguſt, the third in November, and the fourth in March: and it has power to meet oftener, when and where it ſhall think fit. The ſeſſion ſeldom or never exceeds three days; it is often leſs; and ſometimes there is no ſeſſion, the number who meet not amounting to a quorum, which is thirty-one, of whom twenty-one muſt be miniſters. It chuſes its own Moderator, and the Moderator of the Aſſembly, whoſe province it is firſt to conſtitute the court, is almoſt always choſen, unleſs when he lives at a great diſtance from Edinburgh, in which caſe another is choſen.

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appear at the bar; and debates are as ably carried on as in the Aſſembly. There is juſt this difference, that the Commiſſion is a court of delegates, and its ſentences are ſubject to the review of the next General Aſſembly. As therefore it is not a ſupreme court, it is not honoured with the preſence of the repreſentative of Majeſty. It has been pleaſantly ſuggeſted, that it might have a ſtatue, or picture, of the King put up, as a fainter image than my Lord Commiſſioner.

The General Aſſembly being compoſed of clergy, nobility, judges, lawyers, merchants, country-gentlemen, farmers, and in ſhort of all ranks and profeſſions, it cannot fail to be an excellent ſchool for eloquence. Accordingly, not to mention great names now no longer on the ſtage of life, it may be remarked, that my Lord Marchmont, Sir Gilbert Elliot, Mr Wedderburne, Mr Dempſter, have all practiſed as Ruling Elders. But there are among the clergy many very good ſpeakers.

The livings of the Scottiſh clergy are but from 60l. to 130l. a-year [xii. 203.], thoſe in towns being generally the beſt. They are choſen into the offices of Principal and Profeſſor of Divinity in the ſeveral univerſities of Scotland, the ſalaries of which offices are not conſiderable; and they enjoy ſix offices belonging to the chapel-royal, none of which exceed 60l. a-year. Their ſphere of lucrative ambition is therefore very limited. But their ambition to diſtinguiſh themſelves is great.

In preſbyteries agents or attornies frequently appear for parties. In ſynods advocates or counſellors ſometimes appear. But the General Aſſembly proceeds with ſo much dignity, that counſel regularly appear, and plead each cauſe at the bar of the Venerable Houſe; and caſes are previouſly diſtributed juſt as in the Houſe of Lords. The introduction of lawyers into this court is, no doubt, founded on a kind of preſumption, that the Canon law is to guide in a great meaſure its deliberations; and, beſides, there have been ſeveral acts of parliament reſpecting the conſtitution of the church of Scotland. The queſtions chiefly agitated in the General Aſſembly are queſtions as to ſettling miniſters in vacant pariſhes. One party, which may be called the *court* or *ſtate party*, maintains, that whenever a man has received the preſentation to a living, the church is bound to induct him, unleſs there appears ſome valid objection to his doctrine or morals. On the other hand, the *popular party*, who conſider the law of patronage, or the power of preſentation, as a grievance, maintain, that although it was revived by an act of parliament paſſed in 1711, during Q. Anne's Tory miniſtry, who wiſhed to diſtreſs the Scotch Preſbyterians, as being the ſteadieſt friends to the Hanoverian ſucceſſion, and at the ſame time to pave the way for arbitrary power, it is ſtill ſoftened and limited by a diſcretionary power left with the church to judge when it is *expedient*, and *for the good of ſouls*, that a perſon preſented ſhould be ſettled in a pariſh. Very able men embrace theſe different opinions; and of conſequence the debates upon them are carried on with force and keenneſs, eſpecially as the parties are now pretty well balanced in numbers. Dr Robertſon, author of the hiſtories of Scotland and of Charles V. may be called the leader of the court-party. He is a member of the Aſſembly every year, and ſhews an ambition to be at the head of the *Kirk of Scotland* that ſeems hardly compatible with a mind accuſtomed to the contemplation of great and extenſive objects. He ſits like a prime miniſter upon the treaſury-bench, and has his choſen ſupporters. *It would be indecent to ſuppoſe that he can have his prepared and determined voters.* He ſpeaks as he writes. He has much addreſs; and having, or being believed to have, intereſt with thoſe in power in the ſtate, there is no wonder that

The commiſſion is impowered to cognoſce and finally determine all cauſes referred to it by the Aſſembly; to advert to the intereſt of the church; to inquire into the publiſhing and ſpreading of books and pamphlets inconſiſtent with the Confeſſion of Faith; to receive references and appeals from ſynods in matters of doctrine, and ripen ſuch affairs for the Aſſembly; and to take care, that the impreſſions of the Holy Scriptures, the Confeſſion of Faith, and Catechiſms, &c. be correct, and give directions about printing them. — Our readers will remember, that this court publiſhed a ſeaſonable warning to the people, and preſented an addreſs to the King, on the breaking out of the rebellion in 1745 [vii. 517, 23.]; that in 1756, it addreſſed the King on the ſituation of affairs after the declaration of war againſt France [xviii. 624.]; and that, in 1760 [xxii. 610, 25.], it ſent commiſſioners to congratulate the preſent King on his acceſſion.]

that he ſhould be followed by many; for all objects of ambition are comparatively important. Each country-clergyman expects a better country-living, a benefice in a town, a chair in the univerſity, or perhaps aſpires to royal favour. Of the popular party there is no one leader. They have many powerful men among them, both in underſtanding, learning, piety, and eloquence. It may be ſaid of the court and popular parties, *penes hanc gloria, penes illam palma eſt.* The latter appears to the greateſt advantage; but the former gains any prize that is to be had. The popular party was, for ſome years, on the decline; but it has of late revived, and increaſed in ſtrength, and bids fair to prevail. Beſides a diſtinguiſhed body of the clergy, it has many lay elders zealous and active in its intereſt. We may mention, in particular, two gentlemen of the law, Meſſ. Croſbie and Maclaurin, Advocates. Both are maſters of the ſubject; and both ſpeak in a manner that would do them honour in any aſſembly. Mr Croſbie harangues with a firmneſs, a boldneſs, and a warmth, that have gained him the title of *Serjeant Croſbie* in the civil courts, and *Saint Croſbie* in the eccleſiaſtical. Mr Maclaurin, who is ſon to the celebrated Profeſſor Colin Maclaurin, and who gave ſo great a proof of his abilities in his defence of Mungo Campbell [xxxii. 140.], argues warmly too, but with more preciſion, and at the ſame time more fancy. He has written ſeveral eſſays in verſe; and his ſpeeches are always ſeaſoned with wit and humour. When he was younger, he dealt them out more liberally. He is now more ſparing of them. It was obſerved, by a lively friend of his, diſtinguiſhed for the originality of his compariſons, "Maclaurin has as much wit and humour as ever he had; but, fearing to overſeaſon the diſh, he has clapped the lid upon the caſtor, and inſtead of throwing out thoſe qualities copiouſly as formerly, he ſprinkles them with more addreſs."

The Rev. Mr Randall, miniſter at Stirling, has lately publiſhed a book, under the title of, *Tracts concerning Patronage* [xxxii. 268.], in which the argument againſt the rigid exerciſe of patronage, and in favour of the power remaining with the church to indulge the Chriſtian people in the approbation or diſapprobation of a paſtor, is ſupported with much knowledge, and ſolidity of reaſoning, and at the ſame time it is ſhewn of what real and great importance the church may be, by maintaining this power, and ſtanding as a reſpectable umpire between patrons and people. And there has lately been erected a ſociety for the propagation of Chriſtian liberty, who, among other meaſures, have printed at their expence, and tranſmitted to every pariſh in Scotland, a pamphlet, pointing out to the elders the proper method to elect a majority of the commiſſioners to the General Aſſembly, friends to the cauſe of the people [xxxii. 497. 614.]. This, it is thought, will have a great effect. How far it will have a good effect is not for us to determine.

Such is the conſtitution of the church of Scotland; ſuch the ſtate of parties in it at preſent. It is an object altogether unknown to our Engliſh readers, and till very lately was unknown to ourſelves; though it appears to be an object well worthy of attention, and capable of furniſhing much entertainment to people who are inquiſitive, and who delight in the exertions of genius and abilities in every ſphere.

To give our readers a ſmall ſpecimen of the oratory of the church of Scotland, we ſhall preſent them with ſome detached fragments of ſpeeches in the General Aſſembly, 1771, the Rt Hon. the Earl of Glaſgow, Commiſſioner, the Rev. Mr Walker, of Edinburgh, Moderator; hoping that if theſe prove acceptable, we ſhall have it in our power to preſent them with more complete ones on future occaſions.

CAUSE *of St* NINIANS. [xxxiii. 274, 29.]

The Rev. Mr David Thomſon, miniſter at Gargunnock, having received a preſentation to be miniſter at St Ninians, a great number of the people oppoſed his ſettlement, and on various pleas had ſtaved it off for no leſs than five years. The preſbytery of Stirling had refuſed to *tranſport*, i. e. tranſlate, him from Gargunnock to St Ninians. The ſynod of Perth and Stirling had confirmed this ſentence. An appeal was brought to the Aſſembly.

The counſel for the patron were, Sir John Dalrymple, Mr Bannatyne Macleod, and Mr James Boſwell. The counſel for the people was the Hon. Mr Henry Erſkine, brother to the Earl of Buchan.

The Rev. Dr *Webſter*, at *Edinburgh*, celebrated

celebrated for his copious eloquence, for his quickneſs of repartee, and for his abilities in calculation *, and the Rev. Mr *Freebairn*, at *Dumbarton*, who may be ſtyled the great champion of the popular party, having reckoned ſo as to think themſelves almoſt ſure of carrying the cauſe their own way, pretty plainly ſpoke out this, before the cauſe had been heard, which was not altogether regular.

Mr Boſwell ſaid, "From what has dropt from two diſtinguiſhed members, there is great reaſon to apprehend two formidable batteries planted againſt us. They were not indeed *maſked* batteries; for we will do them the juſtice to ſay they were very *open*. However, if it ſhould be mounting a breach, we muſt now go on. We have fairly taken the field of battle.—*Concurritur.*—And although not *horæ momento*, yet, in a few hours, *cita mors venit, aut victoria læta.*"

Rev. Mr Freebairn. "When I came into this Aſſembly, Sir, I heard of terrible things: I heard of batteries; I heard of cannon. Sir, when a member of this Aſſembly plants his battery againſt arbitrary power, I think his conduct juſt and reſpectable. Hearing ſo many warlike terms, I thought I had undergone ſome magical change, and been ſuddenly conveyed into an unhappy iſland, where the batteries of a powerful foe have been but too ſucceſsful againſt freedom. But, Sir, I did not expect, that a people ſtruggling for liberty would be attacked by the friend of Paoli."

[*The gentleman who favoured us with this account, regrets much that he could not procure the ſpeech of the Rev. Mr Frame, at Alloa, which, he ſays, was one of the moſt perſuaſive and beautiful ſpeeches on the ſide of the people that ever was pronounced.—If any correſpondent can furniſh us with it, we ſhall eſteem it a great favour.*]

Rev. Mr Meek, at *Kinnoul*. "Our brother Mr Thomſon is in the ſituation of a lover, who has improperly fixed his affections on an object cold and indifferent to him. When connections between perſons ſo circumſtanced are enforced by cruel parents and guardians, they are always uncomfortable, and often end in ſeparation. The pariſh of St Ninians has perſiſted in refuſing Mr Thomſon as their miniſter now theſe five years. Why ſhould we force him upon that pariſh? How can we ſee it is expedient?"

Rev. Mr Thomſon, at *Dunfermline*. "I have as great a regard for the people as any man, and will help them when I can. But I cannot think it my duty to humour them without a cauſe. Our forefathers would never allow the people to keep out a preſentee merely from prejudice. No: if the people could not aſſign a rational ground of objection, the church forced him upon them in the fear of the Lord. I look upon this oppoſition to Mr Thomſon to be nothing but humour. They complain he is old, though he is twenty years younger than I am. They ſay his voice is weak; and yet he is very well heard. In ſhort, they don't know what they would be at. They have had too much encouragement. They ought to ſubmit as good children to the church. They have been long without a miniſter to diſpenſe goſpel-ordinances to them. They refuſe Mr Thomſon; but they ſhould conſider they may get a worſe. If it is only his weakneſs that offends them, he will die the ſooner; and then they may get a ſtronger."

Rev. Mr Colin Campbell, at *Renfrew*. "If coming oft before us make a cauſe good, this is a very good one. The preſbytery and ſynod have done well. They have conſidered the rules and recommendations of this church, and the abſurd conſequences that would follow, ſhould this ſettlement proceed. What are the circumſtances here? Almoſt the whole body of this pariſh of St Ninians, ſeven thouſand ſouls, are crying out againſt Mr Thomſon, and will by no means have him. There is not one rational reaſon for us to proceed to this ſettlement. The whole world would cry out againſt us. It would be ſaid, that we croſs the people juſt for croſſing's ſake, like children, in the ſame way as it is alledged the people are oppoſing the preſentee. Were I inclined to rebuke our brother for his frowardneſs, I would ſend him to St Ninians, that he might ſuffer; but I incline to be merciful, and let him ſtay where he is."

Mr Alexander Belſches, Advocate. "I am one of thoſe who think patronage a great misfortune to the church of Scotland. It is hard for one juſt entering on life, before he can be allowed to have ſtrength of judgement, it is hard for him to be reckoned one of the troublers of the world. But I am involved in that reproach

* [What is here ſaid, is, with reſpect to Dr Webſter, altogether without foundation.]

reproach with great men. Patronage, the child of Popery, the nurſling of tyranny, I deteſt and abhor. The circumſtances in which Mr Thomſon ſtands, with ſuch a numerous body oppoſed to him, are truly ſtriking. To have ſettled him in theſe circumſtances would have been to run counter to the regulations of our church, and, beſides, to run into the greateſt abſurdities. A man is not to be tranſlated from one pariſh to another, but *for the greater good of the church*. Now, had Mr Thomſon been tranſlated, it would have been, in the firſt place, for the greater good of the church, to oppreſs a whole pariſh, to pleaſe one Reverend brother, however dear, and a few friends, however reſpectable. Secondly, it would have been for the greater good of the church, that he ſhould have preached to bare walls. Thirdly, it would have been for the greater good of the church to have put our brother into a ſituation where he could not be happy. Fourthly, it would have been for the greater good of the church, to have given up almoſt the only power which is left us, to ſoften and correct the rigorous law of patronage. We may at leaſt make the beſt of a bad bargain. I am clear, in whatever view we take it, that the ſentence now before us ſhould be affirmed. It has been ſaid, the vacancy of this pariſh has continued too long. But to ſettle it as propoſed would be much worſe than a vacancy; for the people would all leave our church. The nation has juſtly loſt its reverence for this houſe. If it will but alter its conduct, we ſhall ſoon ſee it recover its authority. We have been terrified with the bugbears of civil power. I ſit here by a commiſſion independent of the civil power. If inconveniencies occur, let the law take care." — [This gentleman gave a full and accurate deduction of the ſeveral laws concerning patronage, which would not be entertaining to our readers.]

Rev. Mr Lauſon, at *Kirkmahoe*. "It is always with diffidence, Sir, that I ſpeak in cauſes of ſuch extent as this. It is no ſurpriſe to me, that ſuch cauſes are agitated both in our inferior and ſuperior courts. When ſuch cauſes are no more, I ſhall look on our church as nigh ruin. I can never forget the unanimity of this church in addreſſing Q. Anne againſt the law of patronage. Had the ſpirited oppoſition to that law continued, I will be bold to ſay, that, in good policy, the legiſlature would have been under a neceſſity to abrogate it. In my opinion, the act of parliament in 1719 [xxxiii. 251.] was calculated to blunt the edge, to break the teeth, of that hard law. When I conſider of how little force our church allowed the law of patronage to be for many years, how few ſettlements of miniſters proceeded upon it, and that, notwithſtanding all the inſidious methods taken to get the people to ſubmit to it, it was ſtill accounted a hard law, and a very grievous yoke; when I conſider all theſe circumſtances, what am I to think of our preſent conduct? It is ſaid we are now brought to a ſtate of acquieſcence, to a ſtate of peace. I ſhould be ſorry if that were the caſe. I can imagine a private perſon to be in a ſort of ſtate of peace, from having dulled all the feelings of his frame: but I call that a lethargy; and I apply the ſame principle to ſocieties as to men. The tendency of our harſh meaſures is to drive our people from the church, no matter whither; to be Papiſts, or any thing elſe, for what we know. Taking all circumſtances then together, Sir, I muſt give my voice for affirming this ſentence."

Rev. Mr Spence, at *Orwell*. "This is one of the ſtrong inſtances of the rigorous exerciſe of the law of patronage. Here is a church which has lain long vacant. Whoever is in the fault, has much to anſwer for. The preſbytery of Stirling is ſurely not to blame in refuſing to ſettle Mr Thomſon, while he is ſo violently oppoſed by the people, and therefore ſo likely to be altogether uſeleſs. For how could they go through the form of ordination [xxxi. 121.], without diſſembling and prevaricating in a ſhocking manner? The preſentation is given: it is out of the patron's hands: the preſentee, I muſt ſay, is to blame, greatly to blame, for inflexibly holding it, notwithſtanding all the diſtreſs that it occaſions. I meddle not with his former principles: but ſurely his notions at preſent are moſt extraordinary. He is living quietly in a ſmall pariſh, where he is well received: he wants to thruſt himſelf upon a large pariſh, where he is oppoſed with unabating violence. He flies from peace, and puts his head into a flame. Strange infatuation! Alas, Sir, he knows not what it is to live amongſt a people who are all enemies to him; how bitter it is for a man to have all his neighbours

looking upon him with averſion. I heard him ſay in this houſe, that he thought himſelf bound in honour to hold this preſentation. A point of honour, Sir, ought not to be put in competition with the peace of the church. I am perſuaded, that, on a modeſt repreſentation to the patron, the point would be given up. But at any rate this Venerable Aſſembly can prevent it."

Rev. Mr Porteous, at *Glaſgow*. "I ſhall always endeavour to confine myſelf to the cauſe. We are here ſitting ſolely as a court of expediency. I lay my hand on my heart, and aſk every man in this Aſſembly to ſay, if ſettling Mr Thomſon at St Ninians would be for edification? I have heard it ſaid, that there ſhould be ſome ambition in the clergy of the church of Scotland to get better livings. I call on the gentlemen around the throne to attend to this. Let the landholders be cautious. It means a moderate Epiſcopacy. I muſt attend to one fact. This Reverend gentleman applied to the kirk-ſeſſion of Gargunnock, his preſent ſmall pariſh, to be allowed to preach but one ſermon a-day, by reaſon of his infirmity. Yet he would now be tranſported to the large pariſh of St Ninians. There is a groupe of ideas preſent themſelves to my mind; and every one of them fills me with horror."

Mr Alexander Ferguſon, Advocate, ſpoke very warmly againſt the popular party, and for reverſing the judgement under review.

Rev. Mr Richard Brown, at *Lochmaben*. "I ſhould not have troubled the houſe now, Sir, had it not been that I wiſhed to keep the houſe cool; for, from the warmth of the two laſt ſpeeches, I really feared *extreme heat*. I own, Sir, the judgement under review appeared to me ſo juſt and proper, that I expected it would be affirmed at once without a vote; and that none would have ſpoke againſt it but thoſe who were paid for doing ſo. Solomon ſays, "There is no new thing under the ſun:" but I declare I think Solomon miſtaken. I make ſhort ſpeeches, Sir: *Verbum ſat ſapienti*. My ſpeech ſhall juſt be a text from the Roman poet:

Omne tulit punctum qui miſcuit utile dulci.

Is it *utile*, is it *dulce*, for Mr Thomſon, or any other man in this houſe, to force himſelf upon a pariſh againſt the will of the pariſhioners? Is it *utile*, is it *dulce*, for the King to alienate the hearts of ſo many of his good ſubjects as are alienated by a violent ſettlement of a miniſter? I beg pardon, I mean the King's miniſters; for the King can do no harm. Is it *utile*, is it *dulce*, for the landlords to alienate their people, and loſe their money? Is it *utile*, is it *dulce*, for us, who are the miniſters of the eſtabliſhed church of Scotland, to drive our people from us? The ſtrength of every ſociety conſiſts in its numbers. I have heard of *motions*, of *calling to order*, and other forms of the Houſe of Commons, (looking towards Mr John Home, the author of *Douglas*, &c.). Moderator, I have been both in the Houſe of Commons and in the Houſe of Lords, without being much the wiſer. If any of our brethren go to travel again, I would have them go a little farther. I would have them go as far as old Peter at Rome, and learn from him to keep our people together. Other churches compaſs ſea and land to make proſelytes: we, by our violent meaſures, drive from us the people whom we have. If we baniſh them, they will be ready for any thing. I am convinced old Peter is laughing in his ſleeve at our folly. Let us reſolve then to defend this church as much as we can within the limits of law. And where is there any law unhinging the church of Scotland? What would *John Knox* ſay, or what would *Mr Melville* ſay? If we cannot ſay to Mr Thomſon, "Stay where you are," I think this ſhould be the laſt General Aſſembly of the church of Scotland. I would on my knees beſeech this houſe to ſupport our laws and conſtitution."

Rev. Dr Joſeph Macormick, at *Preſtonpans*. "I beg leave to call the attention of the Houſe to the cauſe which is before us. In the boſom of my commiſſion I am bound, not to vote according to the inclination of the people of St Ninians, but according to the glory of God. When a houſe in a city is on fire, if we can extinguiſh the flames, it is well: but if, by extinguiſhing the flames of that houſe, we ſhould ſet fire to the whole city, it is better to let that houſe be deſtroyed. If we pleaſe the people here, we ſhall raiſe an univerſal flame in Scotland. Every ſettlement of a miniſter who is to be tranſlated from one place to another, will be oppoſed, if the people once think that we have a negative, and that their oppoſition will produce that negative. I enter not on the law: but it is plain, that the ſame power cannot

cannot be placed in two different hands. By the law it is that we ſit here. By the law the modes of induction and tranſlation are preſcribed. And of what can we complain? We above all other churches, are guarded againſt an immoral, an illiterate, an heterodox clergy: We have full powers to keep out ſuch from among us. And ſhould we or our people wiſh for more? Allow me, Sir, to ſpeak to one point, which I cannot help thinking deſerves ſome attention. The queſtion before us ſeems to reſolve into a diſpute, Whether the church can juſtly refuſe to tranſlate a clergyman from a worſe benefice to a better? I thank a kind Providence, and ſome friends, that have put me out of the reach of being affected by this deciſion; for I have been tranſlated from a ſmaller living to one of the beſt in Scotland. But, Sir, I cannot but be warmed with indignation, when I ſee men, who have no ſooner got within the door of preferment, than they would daſh it in the face of men as worthy as themſelves, and tell them that they ought to be contented to remain in obſcurity. I therefore move for a vote."

Rev. Mr Richard Brown, at *Lochmaben*. "Moderator, our Reverend brother is in a great hurry for a vote. He has got his own harangue over, and that it ſeems is to be enough. Sir, I am for giving the ſame liberty of ſpeech to all our brethren. *Veniam petimus damuſque viciſſim.* Mr Macormick and I have been allowed full time to ſpeak. Let full time be allowed to others. [*To be continued.*]

A Character of Dr ROBERTSON.

DR Robertſon was born in the year 1722. His father was a clergyman of the church of Scotland; and, at his death, miniſter of the Grayfriars church in Edinburgh [vii. 543.], the charge which is at preſent occupied by his ſon.

The Doctor paſſed through the uſual courſe of ſtudies in the univerſity of that place, not without a degree of *eclat*, and entered into holy orders when ſtill very young. He was ſettled miniſter of Gladſmuir, an obſcure country-pariſh, in the county of Eaſt-Lothian, ſo early as in 1745.

It was in the retirement of this village, on the margin of a wide-extended common, that he found leiſure to compoſe his elaborate hiſtory of Scotland, that work which laid the foundation of his future fame, and was the principal mean of raiſing him, from a living hardly exceeding ſixty pounds a-year, to greater dignities and emoluments than have ever been enjoyed by any Preſbyterian clergyman ſince the time of the Reformation.

Long, however, before the publication of this, or any other of his literary performances, even from his firſt appearance in public life, his abilities had begun to attract the notice of obſerving men. And to his more intimate friends he diſcovered marks of ſuch high-minded ambition, as, ſeconded by thoſe abilities, could not have failed to have carried him to the firſt honours of his profeſſion, in whatever ſphere he had been placed, and whatever oppoſition he had had to combat.

The firſt theatre that offered for the diſplay of his talents was the General Aſſembly of the church of Scotland. It is the annual meetings of this court that produce to view men who would otherwiſe have ever remained in the deepeſt obſcurity. There the humble paſtor, whoſe lot has been caſt in the remoteſt corner of the Highland wilds, feels himſelf, for a time, on a footing of equality with the firſt citizen in the kingdom; he can there diſpute with him the prize of eloquence, the moſt flattering diſtinction to the liberal mind; a diſtinction which is naturally ſought after with the greater eagerneſs in that aſſembly, as the ſimple and apoſtolical eſtabliſhment of the church of Scotland has rendered it the only preeminence to which the greateſt part of its members can ever hope to attain.

From the moment Dr Robertſon firſt appeared in this aſſembly, he became the object of univerſal attention and applauſe. His ſpeeches were marked with the ſame manly and perſuaſive eloquence that diſtinguiſhes his hiſtorical compoſitions; and it was obſerved by all, that, while his young rivals in oratory contended themſelves with opening a cauſe, or delivering a ſtudied harangue, he ſhewed equal ability to ſtart objections, to anſwer, to reply; and that even his moſt unpremeditated effuſions were not unadorned with thoſe harmonious, and ſeemingly meaſured periods, which have been ſo much admired in his works of labour and reflection. He ſoon came to be conſidered as the ableſt ſupporter of the cauſe he choſe to eſpouſe; and is now the unrivalled leader of one of the

great parties which have long divided the church of which he is a member.

When we reflect upon this circumſtance, and conſider how much mankind are the ſame in every ſociety, we ſhall be the leſs ſurpriſed to find, in the literary works of Dr Robertſon, an acquaintance with the human heart, and a knowledge of the world, which we look for in vain in other hiſtorians. The man who has ſpent his life in the difficult taſk of conducting the deliberations of a popular aſſembly, in regulating the paſſions, the intereſts, the prejudices, of a numerous faction, has advantages over the pedant, or mere man of letters, which by no ability, no ſtudy, no ſecond-hand information, can ever be compenſated.

The firſt work which extended the Doctor's reputation beyond the walls of the General Aſſembly, was a ſermon preached at Edinburgh, before the ſociety for propagating Chriſtian knowledge, and afterwards publiſhed; the ſubject of which was the ſtate of the world at the time of the appearance of Jeſus Chriſt [xvii. 166.]. The ingenuity with which a number of detached circumſtances are there collected, and ſhown to tend to one ſingle point, may perhaps rival the art which is ſo much admired in the Biſhop of Meaux's celebrated univerſal hiſtory.

This ſermon did great honour to the author; and it is probably to the reputation he gained by it, that we ought to attribute the unanimity with which he was called (by a popular election) to be one of the miniſters of Edinburgh *, an event which happened not long after, in the year 1758. [xviii. 419. xix. 260. xx. 328.]

His hiſtory of Scotland was publiſhed in 1759 [xxi. 126.]. The merit of this work is ſo extenſively known, and ſo univerſally acknowledged, that it ſtands not in need of our praiſes. It has been pronounced, not perhaps without juſtice, to be the beſt hiſtory in the Engliſh language.

It is with pleaſure we mention, to the honour of the age in which we live, that the offices which he ſoon after obtained were generally beſtowed on him, unſolicited and unexpected. He was firſt appointed one of his Majeſty's chaplains †, then choſen principal of the college of Edinburgh ‡, and the office of hiſtoriographer for Scotland, which had long lain dormant, was revived on his account, by the intereſt of the Earl of Bute, and a ſalary annexed to it of two hundred pounds a-year. [xxv. 416.]

His next work, the hiſtory of the reign of Charles V. was expected by the public with a degree of impatience of which there is no example. And we may alſo affirm, that there is hardly an inſtance where expectations ſo extravagantly raiſed have been leſs diſappointed [xxxi. 247.]. The bookſeller, who had made immenſe ſums by the ſale of the hiſtory of Scotland, the copy of which he purchaſed for 600 l. gave for this laſt work a price which we believe was never before paid for any book in any country. The hiſtory of Charles V. was ſold for no leſs than 4500 l. Sterling.

The author is now employed in writing the Hiſtory of the Diſcovery and Conqueſt of America. The ſubject is highly intereſting, and may be ſaid to be in ſome meaſure new; nor will it fail, when treated by ſo maſterly a hand, to prove a valuable acquiſition to the republic of letters; but the variety of occupations in which the Doctor is engaged, give reaſon to fear that it will not be delivered to the world for ſeveral years to come.

We cannot conclude this account without obſerving, that our character of this extraordinary man would be very imperfect, were we to mention only his abilities as an hiſtorian, an orator, a leader of a party. He is not leſs remarkable for his talents for converſation, and for thoſe amiable qualities which render a man beloved in his family, dear to his friends, and acceptable in every company. In a word, he may be pronounced to be one of the moſt perfect characters of the age; and his name will be a laſting honour to the iſland that gave him birth. *Lond. Mag.*

* The ſtipend of the Miniſters of Edinburgh is 138 l. per ann.

† The ſalary of this place is 50 l. a-year. [xxi. 218. xxiii. 448.]

‡ The Principal of the College of Edinburgh has a houſe allowed him, and 100 l. per ann. [xxiv. 112.]

Speeches

Speeches in the Houſe of Commons, March 30.

MR Sullivan moved for leave to bring in a bill, for the better regulation of the affairs of the Eaſt India company, and of their ſervants in India [134.]; and declared, that it had two objects, that of reſtraining the Governor and Council from all trade, and that of eſtabliſhing a proper mode of adminiſtering juſtice, by extending the authority of the Court of Juſtice at Calcutta over all Bengal. The motion being ſeconded, Mr Cornwall oppoſed it, as improper, without a previous inquiry into the ſtate of facts, on which, as grounds, the act that was to give the Company a new charter might be grounded. Mr Rumbald then made a ſpeech, in which he endeavoured to exculpate the Company's ſervants, and to paint the ſituation of Bengal in a very favourable light; declaring, that, as an innocent man, he wiſhed for an inquiry, that thoſe who were unjuſtly traduced might be diſtinguiſhed from the perſons really guilty. —— Of the ſpeeches made on this occaſion, we ſhall inſert two, viz.

Lord Clive's ſpeech.

Mr SPEAKER,

THE preſs has, for ſome time paſt, teemed with ſo many reflections upon the ſervants of the Eaſt-India Company, and particularly upon me, that, were I not firſt to remove the bad impreſſions thus made, I am afraid any obſervations I could make upon the preſent ſubject of your deliberations would have little or no effect, except perhaps to my own prejudice. My ſituation is delicate; and, little accuſtomed as I am to addreſs this Auguſt Houſe, I may ſink under its difficulties: but, as my honour is concerned, as neceſſity extorts it from me, I muſt run the hazard, however much I may fail in the attempt. It is not that I have any doubts of the goodneſs of my cauſe; on the contrary, I hope it will make me full amends for the inſufficiency of the advocate. At any rate, the Houſe will ſhow ſome indulgence to a man, pleading for what is dearer than life itſelf, his reputation and honeſt fame. Nor do I wiſh that my defence ſhould be ſolely confined to theſe walls; I ſpeak likewiſe to the gallery, and, in general, to my country, upon whom I put myſelf, not only without reluctance, but with alacrity.

It is well known, that the laſt time I went to India I was called upon by the Proprietary in general, without any ſolicitation on my part, to ſtep forth once more to their aſſiſtance, in a very critical emergence [xxvi. 344.]. Poſſeſſed, as I was, not only of an independent, but of an affluent fortune, happy in my connections, happy in my relations, happy in my family, happy in my friends, happy in every thing but my health, which I loſt in the Company's ſervice, never to be regained, how can I be ſuppoſed to have undertaken the arduous taſk impoſed upon me by the Company from pecuniary motives? I muſt have been the moſt mercenary of men, to have, upon ſuch principles, again tempted the faithleſs deep, to have again expoſed my enfeebled conſtitution to the ſultry climate of Hindoſtan, and to the fatigues and dangers of war. Sir, I undertook this voyage from a nobler view, from a principle of gratitude, from the deſire of doing eſſential ſervice to the Company, under whoſe auſpices I acquired my fortune and my fame. Were not this the caſe, would I have imbarked in this affair upon conditions that left me poorer by many thouſand pounds than when I quitted England? This, if neceſſary, I can prove by authentic documents; and, I truſt, it will at leaſt exempt me from the charge of avarice or rapacity.

Suffer me, after this general obſervation, to deſcend to particulars. The charges brought againſt me are all contained in a paper, which was ſent me by the Secretary of the Eaſt-India Company in a letter *, that begged I would tranſmit to him any remarks or any defence I choſe to make. I begged to be excuſed from that trouble, till I ſhould learn what uſe they meant to make of the paper and of my defence. Here the matter reſted.

The firſt charge is, That I carried on an iniquitous trade in cotton. I anſwer, That in the firſt place I never traded, and that I derive every farthing I am worth in the world from being at the head of the army. In the ſecond place, I declare, that I know nothing at all of the nature of cotton, and that I cannot conceive whence ſuch a ſuſpicion could ariſe, as I never was directly nor indirectly concerned in any thing of the kind. One remark, however, naturally occurs upon the ſubject; and that is, that malevolence muſt have been greatly ſtraitened for materials, when ſhe placed ſo ground-

* Here he read the Secretary's letter, and his own anſwer.

leſs

leſs an accuſation at the head of her impeachment. The feebleneſs of her firſt effort is a preſumption that her ſucceeding attacks will be ſtill weaker, and worſe ſupported.

The ſecond charge is, That I carried on an illegal trade in diamonds. Nothing can be a greater miſrepreſentation. The matter of fact is, that, in order to convey home the money ariſing from my jaigheer, I ſent my agents to a diſtant country, not under the juriſdiction of the Company, and they bought up ſome diamonds, in which my property was veſted, and tranſmitted to Europe. Upon balancing accounts, I found that they turned out worſe by three per cent. than the original ſum which they coſt; a clear proof how well I was qualified for trade, and how eager I muſt in conſequence have been in future time to reſume ſo gainful a branch of buſineſs. All this, if it ſhould be called for by the Houſe, and I have no objection to ſuch a meaſure, I pledge myſelf to prove by original papers at your bar.

The third charge is, That I miſmanaged the mint, and adulterated the coin in Bengal. During my preſidency, ſome alteration was made in the ſtate of the coin I will own, but not at my inſtigation. Ignorant as I profeſs myſelf of that buſineſs, it would have ill become me to have been the original contriver of ſuch a delicate operation of government. In that affair I was guided by the lights of others, whoſe particular employment and ſtudy might rationally be ſuppoſed to have made themſelves maſters of the ſubject.

The fourth charge is, That I was guilty of monopolizing beetle-nut, ſalt, and tobacco. Here, I believe, the ſtrength of the accuſation of my adverſaries lies: and, as I myſelf think it a matter of importance, I muſt beg the indulgence of the Houſe, while I diſcuſs it at large. They will hence ſee the ſuperiority of my plan over that of the direction. I know not how it is, but either through obſtinacy or ignorance, the gentlemen who have held the reins of government in Leadenhall-ſtreet, have acted ſo imprudent, ſo inconſiſtent a part, that they have deranged and fruſtrated the beſt-concerted plans of regulation in Bengal. This I hope to make appear under this and other heads of my ſpeech. It is urged, as my greateſt and firſt crime, That I acted in diametrical oppoſition to the inſtructions received from the Direction. Here are theſe inſtructions; it would be idle to read them all. The only paragraph deſerving your attention is this: "You ſhall take from the Company's ſervants the excluſive privilege of trading in beetle-nut, ſalt, and tobacco, and ſettle it upon the footing the moſt equitable to the natives, and the moſt profitable to the Company, you can deviſe." From theſe words it will, I think, appear, that my inſtructions were not ſo preciſe and definite, as abſolutely to fix the mode of carrying on this trade. Being general, I gave them a liberal conſtruction, making the intereſt of the Company the ſole ſtandard by which every regulation was to be tried. Inveſted with extraordinary powers, I thought myſelf juſtified in conſulting the ſpirit of thoſe rules, which were ſo indefinitely expreſſed; and, I truſt, I did not altogether diſappoint the expectations of my employers. The privilege of trading in ſalt was claimed by the ſervants of the Company as a neceſſary addition to their ſalary, which every body knows to be totally inſufficient for their ſupport. The appointments of a Counſellor is only three hundred pounds, and his annual expences cannot fall ſhort of three thouſand: the ſame proportion holds among the other ſervants. Hence, while Mr Vanſittart was Preſident, they ſet up for the firſt time this claim. Suja Dowla ſaw clearly, that if the Company's ſervants were to carry on this trade free of every impoſt and reſtraint, while the native merchants paid large ſums, the latter would be totally ruined, and his revenues from that article would dwindle to nothing. He therefore inſiſted upon the ceſſation of this privilege, elſe that he would throw the trade quite open. The Company's ſervants declared, that they would trade as formerly, without any reſtriction. Hence the war that followed; hence the origin of the Select Committee. Beſides this grievance, there was another to be redreſſed. From time immemorial, it has been a cuſtom to give and take preſents. An inferior can hardly be perſuaded to approach a ſuperior without a gift: the habit of deſpotiſm has formed their minds to this mode of tranſacting buſineſs. Accordingly, when the Company's ſervants became the acting Sovereigns of Bengal, and the channel through which favours paſſed, they received preſents, and thus indemnified themſelves

ſelves for the ſmallneſs of their ſalaries. The Company thought that this practice had introduced many abuſes; and therefore ſent out covenants, which were to be ſigned by all their ſervants, and were to exclude them for ever after from accepting any preſents, by direct or indirect means. Thus deprived of their two main ſtays at once, of the ſalt-trade and of preſents, how were they to be ſupported? I ſaw and felt that ſome plan muſt be adopted; and none preſented itſelf that ſeemed more effectual, or leſs expenſive to the Company, than the appropriation of the money raiſed by the trade in beetle-nut, ſalt, and tobacco, put under proper regulations. In purſuance of this idea, I eſtabliſhed this monopoly; for a monopoly it undoubtedly was; and I fixed the cuſtoms and the prices which it was to pay in the different parts of Bengal, as far as human foreſight and regulation could go. Nor does it appear to me that the meaſure proved oppreſſive. Suppoſe the inhabitants of Bengal to be fifteen millions, according to the general calculation; the quantity of maunds of ſalt ſold is known from the money which they produced, and from the books of the monopoly. At Calcutta the maund of ſalt ſold at one price, at Patna at another, and at Mongheer at another, increaſing in its price the farther it was carried up the river, or into the country. After a due allowance for every circumſtance, I find, that at a medium each perſon did not pay, in the courſe of the whole year, above one and ninepence for ſalt, an equal quantity being allowed to every individual. Now can this ſum be thought exceſſive, in a country where a labourer's wages amounts to ſix ſhillings a-week, where almoſt no cloaths are worn, where no ſtrong liquors are drank, where rice and milk, the ſober food of the inhabitants, are comparatively cheap? The idea is abſurd. Believe me, the monopoly did not bear hard upon the people, but upon the merchants. Thouſands and thouſands of them were thrown out of trade, and reduced to diſtreſs. Nor do I deny that the country-agents exacted unreaſonable profits, and enhanced the price of the commodity. Of that abuſe the Select Committee was entirely guiltleſs; the duties eſtabliſhed by them were moderate and reaſonable. Inſtead of adhering to this plan, what did the Direction do? They reſtored the trade to the natives, and continued the duties without collecting them. Had this object been properly attended to, the treaſury would have been this day a million and a half the richer; for that is the ſum to which, at a medium, that revenue would now have amounted: but the gentlemen have been too much employed in ſecuring an intereſt among the proprietors, to regard ſo trifling a conſideration. Of this monopoly, I, as Governor, had a ſhare, and the reſt of the ſervants their due proportion. But how did I diſpoſe of my ſhare? I diſtributed it among men of merit, men who deſerved well of me and their country. Three gentlemen I carried out with me, promiſing to make proviſion for them. One of them, Mr Maſkelyne, my ſecretary, was the companion of my youth, the companion of my toils and dangers. We both ſerved on the Coaſt, we were both taken together, we both made our eſcape, we both fought under Boſcawen at the ſiege of Pondicherry. Ill health obliged him to return home, and to relinquiſh all his proſpects. When fortune had proved ſo kind to my endeavours, I thought it my duty to aſſiſt him out of my affluence. I did ſo. But ſomething more ſeemed to be wanting. He attended me to Hindoſtan; and the whole of the 32,000 l. accruing to me from the monopoly of beetle-nut, ſalt, and tobacco, was ſhared between him, the other gentleman, and my ſurgeon, who left 700 l. a-year to ſerve me: and I do not think them too amply rewarded. Upon the whole, I diſburſed 5000 l. more than I received; and all this I did, that I might not be taxed with partiality, in order to advance my friends over the heads of other men. Nor is this all that I reſigned. If ever Muſſulman loved a Chriſtian, Meer Jaffier had a ſincere affection for me. Finding himſelf near his end, he called his miniſters, and in their preſence declared, that, as a mark of his attachment, he bequeathed 70,000 l. to Col. Clive. This ſum I might have retained as my legal right, as I have been adviſed by the Honourable Speaker, and by another perſonage, no leſs honourable, that does not ſit in this houſe. This I formed into a fund for the ſupport of officers and diſbanded and diſabled ſoldiers; an eſtabliſhment by which they will now be enabled to return into their own country,

and

and to live as comfortably as if they were penſioners of Chelſea hoſpital. This inſtitution was the only thing wanted to put the military of the Eaſt-India Company upon a reſpectable footing, and to remove the gloomy proſpects from the mind of the old worn-out ſoldier.

Before I enter on the direct diſcuſſion of the preſent ſtate of the Eaſt-India Company, permit me to make a ſhort apology for their ſervants.—Now-a-days every youth poſſeſſed of any intereſt endeavours to go out as a writer to the Company. No matter how ill qualified he is by education; writing and cipering are thought ſufficient. The ſame talents which were deemed neceſſary when the Company was only a trading body, are required now that they have become ſovereigns of an empire as large as all Europe. The ſame hands that flouriſhed a pen, are held capable of ſwaying a ſceptre; and accordingly, no other queſtions are propoſed at their examination, but, "Can you cipher? Can you write, and keep accounts?" A ſpecimen of their penmanſhip is produced, together with a certificate from ſome writing-maſter, that they have under him learned the true art of book-keeping, after the Italian manner. Nothing farther is wanting; they are put upon the liſt. Being equipped, they receive their leſſon from friends and relations: "My dear boy, ſays the father, I have done my part; I have ſet you in the way of Fortune, and it will be your own fault if you are not made a man. See what a fortune has been made by this Lord, and that Lord, by Mr ſuch-a-one and ſuch-a-one: what hinders you to be as ſucceſsful?" Thus are their paſſions inflamed, and their principles corrupted, before they leave their native country. What is the conſequence of their landing in Bengal? One of thoſe raw boys walks out into the ſtreets of Calcutta, for his income will not allow him to ride. He ſees writers who are not greatly his ſeniors, marching in ſtate on fine prancing horſes, or carried along at their eaſe in a palanquin. He comes home, and tells his Banyan what a figure his acquaintance made. "And what hinders you to equal him in ſplendor," returns the Banyan? "I have money enough, and you have nothing to do but to receive, for you need not aſk." Well, money is advanced by the generous Muſſulman: the youth takes the bait, he has his horſes, his coach, his palanquin, his haram; and, while in purſuit of one fortune, ſpends three. But how is the Banyan in the mean time indemnified? Under the ſanction of the young man, who is riſing in the ſtate, and making a quick progreſs towards a ſeat in council, he riſes likewiſe, and commits various oppreſſions with impunity, the practice being ſo general as to afford him perfect ſecurity. I can aſſure you, that native Britons are not the perſons that directly oppreſs, but the Indians who take ſhelter under them, and who have paved their way to all exemption from controul, by pecuniary obligations. Human nature is frail, and the deſire of wealth is as ſtrong a paſſion as ambition. Where then is the wonder that men ſhould ſink under the temptations to which they are here expoſed? Fleſh and blood cannot reſiſt them. An Indian comes to you with his bag of ſilver, and intreats you to accept it as a preſent. If your virtue be proof againſt this trial, he comes next day with the ſame bag filled with gold. Should your Stoiciſm ſtill continue, he returns with it ſtuffed with diamonds; and if, for fear of detection, you refuſe even this temptation, he diſplays his bales of merchandize, a trap into which a trader readily falls. He takes them at a low price, and ſends them to a diſtant market, where he gains 500 per cent. Hence a new plunderer is let looſe upon the ſociety. But he is a plunderer whom we owe to the badneſs of our own regulations. The ſervants of the Company yield only becauſe they are men; preſents are ſo common and ſo prevailing in India, that it is almoſt impoſſible not to be carried along by the torrent. Meer Jeffier told me, that in the courſe of a year he received three hundred thouſand pounds in this way, and I might have received as much while Governor. Judge then how difficult it is for men of common minds to return with unpolluted hands.

Now let us turn our attention to the ſtate of the Company. Hindoſtan, and Bengal in particular, have been from time immemorial the centre of commerce and wealth. The people are numerous and induſtrious, the ſoil is fertile and well cultivated, and the ſobriety of the inhabitants makes riches flow in from all quarters. Nature has been upon the whole ſo bountiful to this part of the world, that it is in want of nothing, but has

has many ſuperfluities, and may accordingly be called with propriety the terreſtrial paradiſe. Hence it has been the object of mens deſires in all ages; and they have in general no ſooner deſired than they obtained. The inhabitants, unnerved by the climate, and other cauſes, are a conſtant prey to invaders. At preſent the ſtruggle ſeems to be between us and the French; for I can by no means perſuade myſelf that that ambitious nation has dropped the deſigns which it was evidently meditating ſome years ago. For what purpoſe was 10,000 men kept at Mauritius, if no ſcheme of conqueſt was laid? I am ſatisfied that they have not yet abjured this plan. They will employ their troops in firmly eſtabliſhing their new colony at Madagaſcar, and, when the critical moment comes, they will pour them into Hindoſtan, and wreſt the whole out of our hands: and, believe me, if they once conquer Bengal, the reſt of the Mogul's empire will follow; and nothing will contribute ſo much as that event to their acquiſition of univerſal monarchy. Theſe conſiderations did not eſcape my attention more than a twelvemonth ago; and, ever anxious for the welfare of the Company, with whoſe intereſt I knew that of my country to be interwoven, I ſubmitted a plan of defence to the inſpection of the miniſter; but I have hitherto found it attended with no good effect. The Eaſt Indies, notwithſtanding all their importance, were left to the protection of chance.

This leads me to conſider the cauſes of the preſent bad ſtate of the Eaſt-India Company. In my opinion this is owing to four cauſes; to the negligence of Adminiſtration, to the miſconduct of the Direction, to the outrageous behaviour of General Courts, and to the diſobedience of the Company's ſervants in the Eaſt Indies. Adminiſtration, inſtead of eſtabliſhing a general plan of permanent government, ſeems, like the Directors and the Company's ſervants, to have had nothing in view but the loaves and fiſhes. When this buſineſs came before parliament ſome years ago, the queſtion was not, How to ſecure ſo beneficial a trade, and ſo great an empire, for a perpetuity? but to make an immediate dividend of 400,000l. to one party, and 200,000l. to another. In ſhort the loaves and fiſhes were the only conſideration. The Directors by no means purſued the vigorous plan chalked out by me. They ſuddenly ſtopped proſecutions, reſtored the ſuſpended, and undid every thing that had been done; and yet by this bill they are willing to diſable themſelves from ever withdrawing proſecutions for the future; a clear proof that they are ſenſible of their own miſconduct in that particular. Nor is this the only point in which they have confeſſedly erred. They have been ſo eager to ſecure their annual election, that the firſt half-year has been conſumed in freeing themſelves from the obligations contracted by their laſt election, and the ſecond half has been waſted in incurring new obligations, and forming an intereſt among the proprietors. But, in ſpite of all theſe manœuvres, the Direction has been ſo fluctuating and unſettled, that freſh and contradictory orders have been ſent out with every fleet. Hence the ſervants in Bengal are in ſome meaſure excuſable, if they have ſometimes ventured to follow their own opinion in oppoſition to that of the Directors. The Governor and Council certainly underſtood the intereſt of the Company in Bengal, much better than the Direction. The Proprietors, however, have no body but themſelves to charge with the evil conſequences. Had they been leſs fickle and abſurd, their concerns would have been much more conſiſtently and uniformly managed. The malverſation of their ſervants may be juſtly charged upon the fluctuation of their own councils. Had they not concurred in reſtoring ſuſpended and proſecuted men, the Governor and Council would never have deliberated, whether they ſhould obey or not the orders of the Direction. Fundamental principles being once overturned, the whole ſyſtem tumbles to the ground. Such in my opinion are the cauſes of the preſent bad ſtate of the Company. That it is bad, I can clearly prove. And it is in vain that the Directors, in order to palliate their own miſconduct, endeavour to ſet a gloſs upon the matter. The Directors do not poſſeſs a ſtate of the revenues of Bengal for the laſt year; but I do, having received it a few days ago from a member in council *; and the clear net revenue amounts for 1771 only to 171,000l. Now government is to receive 400,000l. and the proprietors 200,000l. and all this is

* Here he gave an account of the revenues of Bengal from 1761 to 1772, from a paper in his hand, which he offered to lay before the Houſe.

to proceed from the revenues of Bengal. What a falling off is here! and yet you ſee that the revenue has not greatly decreaſed. The net ſum that came into the treaſury, was greateſt during my preſidency. Since that period the expences of the military eſtabliſhment, as it is called by themſelves, has gradually increaſed, till now it amounts to the enormous ſum of 1,800,000l. per ann. The power of receiving preſents, and the privilege of free trade in beetle-nut, ſalt, and tobacco, being taken away, the Company's ſervants have found out the way of making fortunes by charging exorbitantly in all contracts for furniſhing the troops with proviſions and other neceſſaries; and hence it is that the revenues fall ſhort, and do not come into the treaſury, though the ſum levied does not fall greatly ſhort of four millions. To me it is evident, that the great decreaſe of the revenue is owing to this cauſe, and to the ſupineneſs and indolence of the Governors who ſucceeded me. Had they followed my plan with vigour, the country would have ſtill flouriſhed, and this kingdom might have received an annual advantage of a million and a half. Mr Verelſt was, after the matureſt conſideration, the propereſt perſon that I could pitch upon as my ſucceſſor, though I had ſome ominous feelings of what would happen; but not without a previous proteſt againſt all weak lenity, as you will find from the extract of a letter ſent by me to Mr Verelſt, before I imbarked for Europe. Hence you will perceive that I augured almoſt all the evils that have enſued.

Having detained you ſo long, and exhauſted, I fear, your patience, let me conclude by obſerving, that Bengal is the brighteſt jewel in the Britiſh crown, though at preſent in a rude and unpoliſhed ſtate; that if it be once properly improved and burniſhed, it will eclipſe every thing of the kind that has been yet ſeen in the world; but that if it be once ſuffered to drop out and be loſt, the crown will loſe half its ſplendor and dignity.

N. B. The Noble Lord, in the courſe of this ſpeech, of which we have given every material circumſtance, read ſeveral extracts of letters and other papers.

[*A ſpeech on the other*] *next.*]

A true relation of the interment of King Charles the Firſt, in the chapel of St George, in Windſor caſtle.

From an ancient manuſcript of unqueſtionable authority.*

WEdneſday, the 7th of February 1648, the corpſe being brought to Windſor caſtle, in a hearſe, by Mr Murray, the King's coachman, accompanied with the Duke of Richmond and Lenox, the Marquis of Hartford, the Earl of Lindſay, the Earl of Southampton, and Biſhop Juxon; and being placed in the Dean's-hall, the aforeſaid Lords ſent for a plumber, to open the coffin and lead. They being fully ſatisfied it was the King, his head was ſewed to his body. They gave orders to the plumber to caſt a piece of lead ſome two feet long, with this inſcription, "This is King CHARLES the FIRST, 1648," and ſolder the lead croſs the roof of the coffin. This being done, the coffin was nailed up, and remained two days in the hall, being darkened, with a velvet pall and two lighted tapers upon the coffin. After which time, the corpſe was carried, by twelve ſoldiers of the garriſon, into the chapel; the Lords above named bearing up the pall; Biſhop Juxon, and the Governor of the Caſtle, whoſe name was *Whithcot*, and the officers of the garriſon, with others, following the corpſe; which corpſe, with the velvet pall, was placed upon two truſſels, in a vault in the middle of the choir, by King Henry VIII. and his Queen Jane. The Governor commanded ſome of his officers to ſee the workmen cloſe up the vault. The Governor would not ſuffer the Biſhop to bury the King after the Church-of-England manner, neither would the Lords allow of his way. There was nothing read at the grave; the Biſhop's lips were obſerved to move. They were all full of tears and ſorrow.——The ſoldiers had twelve-pence apiece for carrying the corpſe to the grave. *Gent. Mag.*

* This King's interment, like that of Oliver Cromwel, has been much diſputed; and it has never before been authentically proved, that the real body of K. Charles I. was depoſited in the Royal Chapel at Windſor.

A catalogue of NEW BOOKS, with remarks and extracts, continued. [155.]

LONDON.

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An introduction to the ſtudy of the prophecies concerning the Chriſtian church; and in particular concerning the church of Papal Rome. In twelve ſermons, preached in Lincoln's-inn chapel, at the lecture of the Rt Rev. William Warburton, Biſhop of Glouceſter. By Richard Hurd, D. D. preacher to the Hon. ſociety of Lincoln's-inn. 5 s. *Cadell.* —— The Biſhop of Glouceſter has transferred the ſum of 500 l. bank four per cent. annuities conſolidated, to the Lord Manſfield, Judge Wilmot, &c. upon truſt, for the purpoſe of founding a lecture, in the form of a ſermon, — *to prove the truth of revealed religion, in general, and of the Chriſtian in particular, from the completion of the prophecies in the Old and New Teſtament, which relate to the Chriſtian church, eſpecially to the apoſtaſy of Papal Rome.* — The lecture is to be preached every year, in the chapel of Lincoln's-inn, by ſome able divine of the church of England, appointed by the truſtees, on the firſt Sunday after Michaelmas term, the Sunday next before, and the Sunday next after Hilary term. The lecturer is not to preach the ſaid lecture longer than for the term of four years, and is not again to be nominated to preach the ſame; and when the term of four years is expired, he is to print and publiſh, or cauſe to be printed and publiſhed, all the ſermons or lectures that ſhall have been ſo preached by him. — From ſuch an inſtitution it will readily be acknowledged that no ſmall honour muſt redound to the Biſhop of Glouceſter, as it will no doubt be of conſiderable ſervice to the cauſe of Chriſtianity in general, and to the Proteſtant cauſe in particular. — The main deſign of the inſtitution is, to interpret and apply particular prophecies; and this introductory courſe of lectures is admirably calculated to prepare and facilitate the execution of it. M.

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On

On PAPER.

SOme Wit of old, (ſuch Wits of old there were),
Whoſe hints ſhew'd meaning, whoſe alluſions care,
By one grave ſtroke to mark all human kind,
Call'd clear Blank Paper ev'ry infant mind;
When ſtill, as opening ſenſe her dictates wrote,
Fair Virtue put a ſeal, or Vice a blot.
The thought was happy, pertinent, and true;
Methinks a genius might the plan purſue.
I—can you pardon my preſumption?—I,
No wit, no genius, yet for once will try.
Various the Papers various wants produce,
The wants of faſhion, elegance, and uſe.
Men are as various; and (if right I ſcan)
Each ſort of *Paper* repreſents ſome *Man*.
Pray note the Fop, half powder and half lace,
Nice as a bandbox were his dwelling-place.
He's the *Gilt Paper*, which apart you ſtore,
And lock from vulgar hands in the ſcrutore.
Mechanics, farmers, ſervants, and ſo forth,
Are *Copy Paper* of inferior worth.
Leſs priz'd, more uſeful, for your deſk decreed,
Free to all pens, and prompt at ev'ry need.
The wretch whom Av'rice bids to pinch and ſpare,
Starve, cheat, and pilfer, to enrich—an heir,
Is coarſe *Brown Paper*, ſuch as pedlars chuſe
To wrap up wares, which better men will uſe.
Take next the Miſer's contraſt, who deſtroys
Health, fame, and fortune, in a round of joys.
Will any Paper match him?—Yes—throughout
He's a true *Sinking Paper*, paſt all doubt.
The retail Politician's anxious thought
Deems *this* ſide always right, and *that* ſtark naught.
He foams with cenſure, with applauſe he raves,
A dupe of rumours, and a tool of knaves.
He'll want no type his weakneſs to proclaim,
While ſuch a thing as *Fool's-Cap* has a name.
The haſty Gentleman, whoſe blood runs high,
Who picks a quarrel if you ſtep awry,
Who can't a jeſt, or hint, or look endure;
What is he?—What—*Touch Paper* to be ſure.
What are our Poets, take 'em as they fall,
Good, bad, rich, poor, much read, not read at all?
Them and their works in the ſame claſs you'll find,
They are—the mere *Waſte Paper* of mankind.
Obſerve the Maiden, innocently ſweet!
She's fair *White Paper*, an unſully'd ſheet,
On which the happy man whom fate ordains,
May write his *name*, and take her for his pains.
One inſtance more, and only one I'll bring,
'Tis—the *great man* who ſcorns a little thing,
Whoſe thoughts, whoſe deeds, whoſe maxims are his own,
Form'd on the feelings of his heart alone;
True genuine *Royal Paper* is his breaſt,
Of all the kinds moſt precious, pureſt, beſt.

SONNET. By a HUSBAND.

WHen on thy boſom I recline,
Enraptur'd ſtill to call thee mine,
To call thee mine for life!
I glory in the ſacred ties,
Which modern wits and fools deſpiſe,
Of Huſband and of Wife.

One mutual flame inſpires our bliſs;
The tender look, the melting kiſs,
Ev'n years have not deſtroy'd:
Some ſweet ſenſation, ever new,
Springs up, and proves the maxim true,
That love can ne'er be cloy'd.

Have I a wiſh,—'tis all for thee;
Haſt thou a with,—'tis all for me:
So ſoft our moments move,
That angels look with ardent gaze,
Well pleas'd to ſee our happy days,
And bid us live and love.

If cares ariſe, (and cares will come),
Thy boſom is my ſofteſt home,
I lull me there to reſt:
And is there aught diſturbs my fair,
I bid her ſigh out all her care,
And loſe it in my breaſt.

Have I a joy,—'tis all her own,—
All hers and mine are all but one;
Our hearts are ſo entwin'd,
That like the ivy round the tree,
Bound up in cloſeſt amity,
'Tis death to be diſjoin'd.

AGAINST LIFE.

From the Greek of Proſidippus.

WHat tranquil road, unvex'd by ſtrife,
Can mortals chuſe through human life?
Attend the courts, attend the bar—
There diſcord reigns, and endleſs jar:
At home the weary wretches find
Severe diſquietude of mind;
To till the fields gives toil and pain;
Eternal terrors ſweep the main:
If rich, we fear to loſe our ſtore;
Need and diſtreſs await the poor.
Sad care the bands of Hymen give;
Friendleſs, forlorn, th' unmarried live;
Are children borne? we anxious groan;
Childleſs, our lack of heirs we moan.
Wild giddy ſchemes our youth engage;
Weakneſs and want depreſs old age.
Would Fate then with my wiſh comply,
I'd never live, or quickly die.

FOR LIFE.

From the Greek of Metrodorus.

MAnkind may walk, unvex'd by ſtrife,
Thro' every road of human life.
Fair Wiſdom regulates the bar,
And Peace concludes the wordy war:

At

At home auſpicious mortals find
Serene tranquillity of mind:
All-beauteous Nature decks the plain;
And merchants plough for gold the main:
Reſpect ariſes from our ſtore;
Security, from being poor.
More joys the bands of Hymen give;
Th' unmarried with more freedom live:
If parents, our bleſt lot we own;
Childleſs, we have no cauſe to moan.
Firm vigour crowns our youthful ſtage;
And venerable hairs, old age.
Since all is good, then who could cry,
"I'd never live, or quickly die?"

To HAPPINESS.

O HAPPINESS! thou bliſs divine!
An humble vot'ry at thy ſhrine,
I tune the grateful lay:
Thine empire o'er the world extends;
To thee each knee with rev'rence bends,
And gladly owns thy ſway.

For thee, within her dark abode,
Pale Av'rice keeps her uſeleſs load,
And toils for thee alone:
The bare-worn trav'ller's boſom glows
For thee, 'midſt Lapland's live-long ſnows,
Or India's burning zone.

For thee War ſounds her dread alarms,
And bids the hero's conquering arms
The vengeful weapon wield:
Inſpir'd by thee, nought chills her breaſt,
Though Death, in awful terror dreſs'd,
Ravage the bloody field.

Ardent I ſeek the flow'ry road
That leads to thy divine abode;
O deign to be my guide!
Waft my low bark with proſp'rous ſail
Through ev'ry rough and boiſt'rous gale
That ſwells life's rapid tide:

And ſteer me to that happy ſhore,
Where no rude tempeſt's ſullen roar
Diſturbs thy bliſsful reign.
There, with thy genial influence bleſs'd,
Sweet ſmiling Peace ſhall fill my breaſt,
And pleaſure baniſh pain.

On the Royal-Marriage Act.

QUoth Dick to Tom, — This act appears
Abſurd as I'm alive;
To take the Crown at eighteen years,
The Wife at twenty-five.

The myſt'ry how ſhall we explain?
For, ſure as Dowdeſwell * ſaid,
Thus early if thy're fit to *reign*,
They muſt be fit to *wed!*

Quoth Tom to Dick, — Thou art a fool,
And little know'ſt of life;
Alas! 'tis eaſier far to rule
A kingdom than a wife.

* *Mr Dowdeſwell's ſpeech on the Royal-Marriage act.* [172.]

EPILOGUE ſpoken by Mr DIGGES, *on cloſing the Edinburgh theatre for the ſeaſon, April* 22. 1772. [xxxiii. 593.]

Written by J. TAIT.

TO cloſe the labours of this happy year,
Stript of Theatric pomp I now appear,
And warmly wiſh, before the curtain fall,
The joys of heart-felt tranſport to you all:
Such joys, ſuch tranſports, as their plaudits give,
May old EDINA's generous ſons receive.
As the rough tar whom fate compels to roam
Far from his friends, his country, and his home,
Soon as the winds with fair inviting gale,
And kindly breeze, diſtend the ſwelling ſail,
Leaves the lov'd ſpot where all his wiſhes lie,
To tempt the billows, and deceitful ſky:
Thus with a heavy, fond, reluctant heart,
From fair EDINA's bliſsful ſcenes I part;
From ſcenes where *Beauty* leads her blooming train,
Where generous *Truth* and freeborn *Candour* reign,
Where, ſpite of Calumny and Envy's frowns,
Exceſſive praiſe my poor endeavours crowns.
Farewell! farewell! — Yet if your ſmiles approve,
I'll ſoon reviſit the dear ſcenes I love,
With open arms your kind protection claim,
Nor vainly aſk a more diſtinguiſh'd fame;
Since here my hopes, my deareſt proſpects lie,
With *you* I fain would live, with *you* I'd with to die.

LINES written by a young gentleman, deaf and dumb from his childhood, one of the ingenious Mr Braidwood's pupils [xxxi. 342.], *on ſeeing Mr* GARRICK *perform the part of* Hamlet.

WHen Britain's Roſcius on the ſtage appears,
Who charms all eyes, and (I am told) all ears;
With eaſe the various paſſions I can trace,
Clearly reflected from *his* wond'rous face,
Whilſt true conception with juſt action join'd,
Strongly impreſs each image on my mind.
What need of ſounds, when plainly I deſcry
Th' *expreſſive features*, and the *ſpeaking eye*;
That eye whoſe bright and penetrating ray
Does Shakeſpeare's meaning to my ſoul convey? —
Beſt commentator on great SHAKESPEARE's text!
When GARRICK acts no paſſage ſeems perplext.

On ſeeing Miſs LANCE *interred in Canterbury Cathedral, Feb.* 27 1772

REaſon may ſooth, but ſtrives in vain to heal,
The pang which ſiſters, friends, and parents feel,
When thus the fair, the young, their joy, their truſt,
Eludes their graſp, and moulders in the duſt.
Faith, faith alone, thoſe balſams can ſupply,
That faith which tells us, we ſhall never die!
Which tells us, Death his conqueſts ſhall reſtore,
And all the juſt ſhall meet, to part no more!

J. DUNCOMBE.

HI-

HISTORICAL AFFAIRS.

TARTARY.

"*Extract of a letter from an European ſettled at Macao, a ſmall iſland on the coaſt of China, to his correſpondent at Lisbon, dated Sept.* 13. 1771. Some Uſbeck Tartars, called Nogais, who, according to the cuſtom of thoſe people, had travelled far from their own country to ſeek paſture for their cattle, came in great numbers into the dominions of the Mungale Tartars, bordering on China, where was great plenty, in the beginning of the ſummer of 1770; but did not think proper to leave it, as is cuſtomary, and return to their own country, after ſtaying the ſummer. This was reſented by the Mungale and other Chineſe Tartars, and deputies were ſent to them to requeſt their departure; but the former thinking themſelves ſtrong enough, refuſed to leave the country. After ſeveral altercations they came to blows, when the Uſbeck Tartars were driven away, leaving 700 or 800 killed and wounded, beſides carrying off ſome who were wounded on their carriages. This happened at the end of September. But in the ſpring following they returned, in number about 20,000, headed by their Kans. The Chineſe Tartars being informed of it, and being joined by ſome of the Emperor of China's troops, went out, gave them battle, and defeated them, after killing or wounding upwards of 5000, among whom were ſeveral Kans; they likewiſe took a great number of waggons: the Chineſe had about 2000 killed, and 2500 wounded. This battle was fought on the 28th of Auguſt 1771."

TURKY.

"*Conſtantinople, Mar.* 17. The 7th of this month at night there was a dreadful fire here, which broke out in the ſuburb called Pera, oppoſite the Grand Signior's palace."

"*Peterſburg, April* 14. Accounts were received on Saturday laſt from Marſhal Romanzoff, that the Porte had agreed to a ceſſation of arms, and congreſs; and had named Iſmael Beg, the Reis Effendi, and Oſman Beg, who was formerly his Reis Effendi, to be their ambaſſadors-plenipotentiary. Her Imperial Majeſty has appointed Count Gregory Orloff, and Monſ. Obreſcoff, to be her ambaſſadors plenipotentiary.—Her Imperial Majeſty was graciouſly pleaſed, on Sunday laſt, to make a preſent of 60,000 rubles to Monſ. Obreſcoff, and of 30,000 to Monſ. Levathoff, as a mark of her favour, and in conſideration of the ſervices and ſufferings of thoſe miniſters. *Lond. gaz.*

POLAND.

"*Warſaw, Feb.* 26. The convoy of ſilver, ſo long impatiently expected from Lithuania, amounting to four millions of Polith florins, is at length ſafely arrived here."

"*Warſaw, Mar.* 14. The diets of Lithuania were held with great tranquillity. The Nobility of that province have appointed deputies to acknowledge to the King the legality of the acts of his election and coronation; to aſſure his Majeſty of their fidelity and ſubmiſſion; and how much they were rejoiced that it had pleaſed Heaven to deliver his ſacred perſon from the hands of the aſſaſſins, &c. The deputies of ſeveral palatinates and diſtricts are already arrived to execute this commiſſion."

"*Cracow, Mar.* 15. The King's uhlans took twenty-nine Lithuanians the 12th of this month, near Shawina, who were going to Tyniec; and ſome hours afterwards they took ſeven more. Among theſe priſoners is one of the Confederates counſellors, three captains of horſe, and two under-officers, all young unexperienced men. The Confederates, under Marſhals Walewſki, Radzimenſki, Dzierbicki, Prince Sapiehi, Krayezy, Littecoſki, Coſſakowſki, and others, reſolved the next day to attack the different corps of Ruſſian and Polith troops poſted on the two banks of the Viſtula to obſerve them, in ſome meaſure to keep them blocked up in Tyniec. Accordingly, while 800 men, horſe and foot, who had paſſed the Viſtula early in the morning, were attacking Col. Lange, who was with his men near Smiercona, 5 or 600 Confederates fell upon Gen. Branicki, who was near Kobierzyn, about half a mile from Tyniec. The action was very warm on both ſides. Gen. Luwarow joined Col. de Lange, and attacked the Confederates with ſuch fury, that they were obliged to ſeek ſecurity by getting to their boats, which they did in ſuch diſorder, that many of them were drowned. Our loſs conſiſts only of one captain of the uhlans killed, and two ſubaltern officers, with ſome ſoldiers wounded. The Ruſſians had only ſome men wounded, among whom were none of their officers."

"*Warſaw, Mar.* 25. Opalewſki, in his manifeſto againſt the Ruſſian troops, expreſſes himſelf in theſe terms: "Tho' we have already given them all that we have, yet they are not ſatisfied: they demand of every farmer a ſum of money, a man, a portion of cattle, and a bed. The nobleſſe then have nothing left but their ſabres, and the peaſants their flails, wherewith to oppoſe force by force."

"*Warſaw, Mar.* 30. They write from Dantzick, that the Pruſſians daily demand large contributions. The convents ſuffer moſt, and that of St Bridget has been obliged to ſell all the ſilver utenſils, &c. The duchy of Wermeland ſwarms with Pruſſian troops."

"*Warſaw, March* 31. The Confederate general Marſhal Zaremba, who was poſted with his troops at Petrikau, was a few days ago attacked by Col. Lapuchin, who commanded a detachment of Coſſacks, and ſeconded by Col. Drewitz; who totally routed Zaremba's corps. Zaremba himſelf, with moſt of the officers under him, are killed, and few of the huſſars and uhlans eſcaped. Another of Zaremba's corps was defeated at Kockziani, eleven men killed, and fifty taken priſoners. Sixteen battalions of Pruſſian troops are in full march for Great Poland. Maj.-Gen. Prince Fabulow, who came from Peterſburg with a legion of light troops, is arrived in the environs of Warſaw. By letters from Poliſh Pruſſia we learn, that a corps of 15,000 Pruſſian troops have incamped near Marienwaerder, and that the Pruſſian cordon has extended itſelf as far as Liſſa, Rawitſch, and Zduni."

"*Warſaw, April* 1. The Ruſſian ambaſſador declared laſt Sunday at court, that ſome particular circumſtances obliged his ſovereign to ſend an additional number of troops into Poland."

"*Hamburg, April* 10. Letters from Riga, dated the 24th ult. adviſe, that 30,000 Ruſſians, commanded by Gen. Kimpt, the Count de Tottleben, Gen. Rebinder, the Prince of Iſenburg, and the Prince of Anhalt Bernburg, have paſſed by that place, with a train of large artillery, directing their march towards Poland."

"*Altena, April* 3. All the letters which we receive here from Warſaw, are filled with accounts of the animoſity of the Poles againſt the Ruſſians; and of the precautions taken by the latter, to ſhelter themſelves from the diſagreeable conſequences which might reſult from it. — According to the above letters, a general maſſacre was apprehended there; and the Ruſſian ambaſſador and General Bibikow, notwithſtanding they have each a guard of 150 men, with a piece of cannon, before their houſes, have forbidden any perſon to go out after eight at night."

"*Warſaw, April* 8. Gen. Van Elmpt has already entered Lithuania with a body of light troops, conſiſting of between 15,000 and 16,000 cavalry, and of 10,000 to 11,000 infantry. — M. Benoit, the Pruſſian envoy, hath declared, that the troops of his nation have orders to act in earneſt againſt the Confederates; and the Ruſſian miniſter hath notified, that from henceforward none of the Confederates who may be taken priſoners, ſhall be ſet at liberty. — Our advices from Cujavia mention, that an inſurrection of the peaſants has lately happened there, who commit the greateſt cruelties and robberies. — Letters from Great Poland adviſe, that Gen. d'Anhalt has already attacked Marſhal Zaremba four times; and that the latter had a great number of men killed in thoſe different rencountres, and about 400 made priſoners."

"*Warſaw, April* 18. Yeſterday the body of the Heyduck who was killed in the attack upon the King, was taken out of the grave where he was buried before, and brought to the Proteſtant churchyard, to a place appointed by his Poliſh Majeſty, who has ordered a monument to be erected of marble, with a ſuitable inſcription upon it."

RUSSIA.

"*Hague, April* 17. Letters from Peterſburg of the 24th of March mention, that the inhabitants of Moſcow have received orders to quit that city, and that the court intends ſhutting it up, to prevent the ſpreading of the plague, which is expected to break out with the return of the ſpring, when the moſt rigorous precautions will be taken to ſtop it."

SWEDEN.

"*Stockholm, March* 27. His Majeſty has ordered 20,000 tons of corn to be purchaſed abroad for the relief of his poor ſubjects."

"*Stockholm, April* 9. The following are the contents of the act of bond or obligation which his Swediſh Majeſty ſigned the 28th of February laſt.

In the beginning of it his Majeſty obliges

liges himſelf to an uninterrupted reign. This expreſſion was brought in well conſidered, and means, that the King ſhall not, after the example of the late King in 1768 [xxxi. 43.], lay down the government.

Art. 1. The King obliges himſelf, during his whole life, to remain in and maintain the Lutheran religion, according to the Augſburg confeſſion, with his whole family, and all his ſubjects. 2. He ſhall not allow any perſon whatſoever who does not profeſs the ſaid religion, to hold or enjoy any place under the government; in particular ſuch perſons as are known to be freethinkers, irreligious, impious, and wicked perſons. 3. Contains the repetition of the foregoing article concerning the eſtabliſhed religion; and that all officers, both military and civil, ſhall ſtrictly be bound to obſerve that it be firmly kept and adhered to. 4. His Majeſty obliges himſelf to refrain from buying, or endeavouring to get to himſelf or his family, any principality, province, caſtle, or hotel, &c. which belong to any of his Majeſty's ſubjects, and who have regularly paid the revenue to the crown, without the conſent of the ſtates. 5. The King declares before God, that he will hold principally and preferably the adminiſtration of the kingdom; maintain the rights of the ſtates, the liberty and ſecurity of the ſubjects; and reign with mildneſs and juſtice according to the form inſtituted in this kingdom anno 1720, in the bond or obligation act. 6. The King condemns and deſpiſes all ſuch perſons, as traitors to the kingdom, according to the declaration of the ſtates, who openly or ſecretly do bring, or intend to bring, into this kingdom any ſovereignty; for which purpoſe every ſubject is to take the oath of allegiance before he or they can hold any place under the crown. 7. Concerns the cabinet and the ſtates; that the King ſhall not do any thing concerning the crown unleſs a plurality of voices of the ſtates have been previouſly given, and never without their approbation, and againſt their counſel to reign. 8. The King promiſes further, never to intermeddle with the election of the deputies of the diet, the marſhals, and the ſpeakers, and not ſuffer any other perſon to do it. 9. Concerns the election of the counſellors of the ſtates, and the poſts, which the King gives in the preſence of the ſtates, and not in the cabinet; that is, from Field-Marſhals to Colonels, both incluſive. 10. No perſon in this ſervice ſhall be caſhiered before he be firſt condemned, nor put into any other employment againſt his will. 11. No privilege ſhall be given to any of the ſtates, without the conſent of all the four orders, nor any thing altered without the conſent of the whole four. 12. The revenues of the crown to be diſpoſed of according to the conventions of the ſtates. 13. No foreigner ſhall be naturalized, of what condition ſoever, without the conſent of the ſtates; nor ſhall any foreigner be admitted to a place in the ſenate nor at court. 14. The King is not permitted to go out of the kingdom, except in defence of the crown; the ſame reſtriction is likewiſe laid on the Prince, unleſs required ſo to do by matters of importance. 15. In abſence of the King, or in caſe of ſickneſs, the privy council ſhall ſign all diſpatches. 16. The ſenſe of the convention of the ſtates, from the 23d of June 1743, concerning the heirdom to the crown of Sweden, and the heirs mentioned therein, to remain unaltered. 17. The King ſhall not commence war, nor make new laws, nor alter the old ones; but if the frontiers of the kingdom ſhould be attacked by an enemy, he ſhall defend them; and, with the conſent of the ſenate, levy the neceſſary ſupplies till the diet can meet. 18. The King promiſes to preſerve the gold and ſilver ſpecie in their intrinſic value; to maintain the bank of the counſellors of ſtate, and confirm the privileges thereof. 19. The King engages himſelf to ſupport, according to the tenor of the laws, the eccleſiaſtic ſtate in general, and in particular whatever concerns its dignity, authority, prerogatives, and privileges, as alſo all the ſocieties and communities which depend on it. 20. The King promiſes to take care that the donations made by the monarchs his anceſtors, or by private perſons, for the benefit of the young ſtudents, be adminiſtered and employed conformably to the intentions and ordinances of the founders. 21. All the towns of the kingdom are protected according to the form of regency, in regard to their rights, prerogatives, and immunities, both common and particular. 22. The fabricks and manufactures actually eſtabliſhed, and ſuch as may be ſet up hereafter, ſhall be maintained and cultivated, under promiſe of ſupporting, not only the ſocieties of the mines, re-

lutively to their rights and privileges, but alſo encourage, by virtue of the ordinances of the ſtates, the peaſants to improve agriculture. 23. In order that the counſellors of ſtate may be the more convinced of his Majeſty's inviolable intention, and of his ſincere love for the general welfare, he declares them entirely diſengaged from their oath of fidelity, in caſe he ſhould premeditately infringe his oath, and his capitulation, or what the counſellors of ſtate ſhould judge neceſſary to preſcribe further concerning the form of regency and its ſecurity, the maintenance of the free and pure exerciſe of their religion. 24. Laſtly, The King menaces, with his high diſpleaſure, whoſoever ſhould be ſo inconſiderate as to dare to propoſe one degree of power and ſplendour more than is contained in this preſent act of capitulation, inaſmuch as his Majeſty deſires nothing, on the one hand, but to gain the hearts of his faithful ſubjects; and, on the other, to be their powerful defender againſt all attempts on their legal liberties.

The King has ſolemnly confirmed theſe articles by oath, and his ſignature."

DENMARK.

"*Copenhagen, Mar.* 28. The Attorney-General Uhldahl, who is appointed to ſerve the Queen, and defend her cauſe, has already had ſeveral conferences with her Majeſty at Cronenburg."

"*Copenhagen, Mar.* 31. Counſellor Struenſee had leave to make his defence in writing, which he has done and delivered in; it contains ſix ſheets."

"*Copenhagen, April* 4. Mr Uhldahl, Attorney General, who is charged with the defence of the Queen and of Count Struenſee, and who is for that purpoſe diſcharged from his oath, that he may be able to perform his duty the better, ſpoke the 16th of this month, before the great commiſſion, in favour of the accuſed. In his ſpeech he made uſe of theſe expreſſions: "In whatever light I view the affair, I find ſo much matter for reflection concerning the manner in which the —— has been treated, that I cannot entirely approve of that proceeding." He concludes with ſaying, "Being charged by the King's order, with the defence of the cauſe, be perſuaded, Gentlemen, that I ſhall undertake nothing without a ſcrupulous examination. Neither partiality, nor affection, but the laws, and my conſcience alone ſhall guide my pen, in my vindication of theſe perſons whoſe defence I take in hand." Counſellor Bang is to plead in the behalf of the Count de Brandt."

"*Copenhagen, April* 7. Yeſterday afternoon the grand commiſſion met, and ſat till eleven o'clock at night. Each perſon gave his vote in writing. The counſel on both ſides read their accuſation and defence. On Sunday the Counſellors Uhldahl and Bang were with the priſoners to receive inſtructions for their defence. Counſellor Uhldahl has laid the defence of the ſtate-priſoners, in writing, before the Commiſſioners, in a copious manner."

"*Hague, April* 17. According to the laſt advices from Copenhagen, the Attorney-General having drawn up the charge againſt the Queen Carolina Matilda, and delivered it to the committee of inquiry, and the Queen's defence being likewiſe produced, commiſſioners were ſent with both of them to Cronenburg, to ſhew them to the Queen. Her Majeſty received them very amicably; but without waiting to know their buſineſs, ſhe told them, "That if they came to pay their duty to her as their Queen, they were welcome; but if they wanted to aſk her any further queſtions, they might return from whence they came; for having already ſigned her depoſition with her own hand, ſhe was determined not to hear any thing they had to ſay."

"*Copenhagen, April* 11. On the 9th Sir Robert Keith went to Cronenburg, and had a conference with her Majeſty the Queen Carolina Matilda, and returned again yeſterday.—The 10th came on, before the Commiſſioners, the affairs of the ſtate-priſoners, Counts Struenſee and Brandt. The pleaders were, for the King, the General Fiſcal Vivat; for the priſoners, the Counſellors Uhldahl and Bang, but it was not ended that day. Counts Struenſee and Brandt have leave to make uſe of pen, ink, and paper, and to number their papers.

"*Copenhagen, April* 12. At length ſome particulars have tranſpired of what paſſed before the great commiſſion on the 6th inſt. which day will be memorable in the hiſtory of this kindom. The Queen Carolina is condemned to perpetual impriſonment, and conſequently her marriage with the King our Sovereign is annulled. Though the court has not yet thought proper to publiſh this ſentence, it is nevertheleſs true. Counſellor Bang read the accuſations againſt the Queen,

Queen, which ſeemed to be pretty numerous, as they filled four ſheets of paper. The Attorney-General Uhldahl ſpoke in favour of the accuſed party, and acquitted himſelf with ſo much eloquence in the cauſe of the young Queen, that he drew tears from the whole audience. The five following queſtions gave riſe to great debates among the judges: 1. How the divorce was to be performed? 2. What title the Queen ſhould have after the diſſolution of the marriage? 3. How to act with reſpect to the young Princeſs? 4. What penſion ſhould be allowed the Queen? 5. What place ſhould be fixed upon for the Queen's impriſonment? The three Ladies who are to accompany the Queen in her impriſonment, which will probably be in the caſtle of Aalbourg, are to engage by oath not to abſent themſelves from the priſon after eight o'clock in the evening in ſummer, and ſix in winter.—The whole court cannot but lament the fate of this unhappy Princeſs, who is not yet twenty-one years of age, and condemned to perpetual impriſonment."

"*London, April* 23. We have received from Copenhagen a printed paper, intitled, *The contents of the ſpeech made by the Attorney-General Uhldahl, in vindication of a great perſonage, before the Great Commiſſion at Copenhagen, on the* 16*th of March* 1772.

This ſpeech does not contain any particulars of a great perſonage's examination or defence, but rather ſome obſervations on the nature of the buſineſs then before the Great Commiſſion, and a recommendation to them of a ſtrict adherence to impartiality, preparatory to the Attorney-General Uhldahl's defence of the Queen. The moſt material paſſages in the ſpeech are as follows.

"The King himſelf now ſubmits his own conduct to your judgement; his moſt gracious condeſcenſion allows you in certain reſpects not to conſider the monarch: you are allowed an unlimited liberty to examine, approve, or cenſure all actions; and the ſame condeſcenſion allows me alſo to ſpeak all my thoughts, and to undertake the vindication of the defendants.

In whatever light I conſider this affair, I find ſo much matter for reflection in the proceedings againſt the perſon of the Queen, that I cannot abſolutely approve the whole. Equity bids us now to conſider the King's and his Royal Conſort's perſons in a twofold point of view, in the ſame inſtant in which the order for her impriſonment was given and executed: We muſt conſider them either as Majeſties, or as a married pair; and the former view I think to be now the chief object under our conſideration.

One of the moſt important queſtions neceſſarily and immediately ariſing from the very name of Majeſty is this: "How far a crime of ſtate can be imputed to the Majeſty of a Queen, without degrading her to, and treating her like, the claſs of the ſubjects of the kingdom and the King?" And how is it poſſible to admit ſuch a degradation? The connection in which ſhe ſtands as a Royal Conſort cannot give the leaſt right to ſuch a ſtep. To mention but one of the ſlighteſt arguments: As after the King's demiſe, and during the minority of his ſucceſſor, the law allows a Queen-dowager's Majeſty to be intruſted with the helm of the ſtate; this very ſame right alſo tacitly implies for, and adjudges to, a Queen, a total exemption from ſubjection, even during the life of her Royal Spouſe; though a Queen is very far from being intitled to guide the helm of the ſtate during the life of her conſort. And does not her high birth, as a Princeſs of a foreign ſtate, alſo directly and abſolutely exempt her from that ſubjection? I think, Yes, it does. Can then ſuch a perſonage lawfully be proceeded againſt like a ſubject of the ſtate? Not even to mention here, that it is to a Queen's perſon the whole ſtate owes the preſervation of the Royal Line; does ſhe not give us lawful heirs to the throne? She therefore cannot poſſibly be treated in the ſame manner as one who is a native of the ſtate, or an acquired ſubject of the crown, and whoſe ſubjection only depends on the Monarch's Majeſty.

But we muſt not content ourſelves with having here conſidered the ſide of Majeſty; we will direct our attention to another point of view; we will conſider her only as a married conſort; we will paſs over all thoſe rights, of which an abſolute monarch may avail himſelf, rigorouſly to proceed againſt his ſubjects, and to adjuſt his ſentence on them to his own wiſdom. Yet even here alſo I am far from finding, that an huſband has an unlimited power over his wife's perſon; marriage being only a *pactum cujus finis in mutuo auxilio et propagatione ſtirpis conſiſtit*. Are then not eccleſiaſtical courts inſtituted

inſtituted for the welfare of a ſtate, on purpoſe only to protect theſe rights, to maintain their order, and to ſee juſtice done to the party who brings her complaints againſt the other before theſe courts? And can then any ſentence be determined upon before both parties have been heard, and that equitable maxim, *Audiatur et altera pars*, been obſerved?

Conſider well, Gentlemen, whether, *in hoc ſtatu*, and in this inſtance, the reverſe has not already happened. That violence with which Queen C——— has been treated, notoriouſly ſhews her degradation from her rank, her birth, and her rights as a Royal Conſort; nay, in general, from that tie by which ſhe is connected with the Monarchy: And the only way of reſtoring her in ſome meaſure to the ſplendor of her condition, and her prerogatives, is to reſtore her to liberty; and how far matrimonial obligations can be aboliſhed, may moſt ſafely be judged by the eccleſiaſtical laws of our ſtate.

Your own wiſdom, Gentlemen, your love for juſtice, and your impartiality, make me hope, that the arguments which I am now laying before you, and ſuch as I ſhall further alledge, will meet with your unbiaſſed and mature conſideration. It would be needleſs here to recapitulate all what that great perſonage has alledged in her own defence. All theſe papers are in your hands. Read and judge yourſelves, and then your own ſentiments cannot but coincide with my thoughts, and approve of my arguments, of which I will lay before you a deduction, more ample, and I hope, much more ſolid, than what the few minutes I am allowed to ſpeak before you, can admit.

The King has appointed you judges, and on your determinations alone, the protection of the rights of Majeſty, the preſervation of Monarchial power, and the ſupport of the kingdom's liberty will depend. In conſequence of your ſentence only, offences will be viewed in a ſtronger or milder light: and you are intruſted with the power of degrading a perſonage from her high birth, her prerogatives, and her rights of Majeſty; nay entirely to diveſt her of them. You only are now to act as definitive judges between a Royal Huſband and his Conſort, whoſe rights and obligations in this reſpect have always been equal. We can only defend ourſelves, and our defence can be derived from no other arguments than thoſe of juſtice and equity."

"*Hamburg*, *April* 24. Letters from Copenhagen adviſe, that the Commiſſion of Inquiry has been again aſſembled to interrogate Col. Falkenſchiold, and that a regiment of dragoons is ſent to Aalbourg to guard that caſtle. Theſe letters add, that during the laſt examination which Count Struenſee underwent, he made a very pathetic ſpeech, which drew tears from the eyes of his Judges, particularly the Preſident Juel Wind; that he confeſſed himſelf guilty, implored the clemency of his Sovereign, and begged, if he muſt die, that he might ſuffer privately in the caſtle, and not be expoſed to public view: He finiſhed his diſcourſe with ſoliciting favour to be ſhewn the other priſoners, whoſe diſgrace he had been the author of. The Commiſſaries of the Tribunal have been with the Queen at Cronenburg."

"*Copenhagen*, *April* 28. The Grand Commiſſion met on Saturday the 25th, and paſſed ſentence on the Counts Struenſee and Brandt. Their crimes were firſt read aloud, with all doors open; at the concluſion of which it was pronounced as follows. "In conſequence of the Daniſh ſtatute-law, book 6. chap. 4. art. 1. John Frederick Struenſee has, for his crimes, forfeited his honour, eſtate, and life; his coat of arms ſhall be broken by the common hangman; then his right hand ſhall be cut off, and afterwards his head; then his body ſhall be quartered, and put on a wheel; his hand and head ſhall be put on poles, and placed over the gates." The ſame ſentence was pronounced on Count Enevoldt Brandt.

According to this ſentence, the execution followed this morning, at eight o'clock, before the eaſt gate of this city, in the middle of a field, upon a ſcaffold erected for that purpoſe, which was nine ells high, and the upper part eight ells ſquare. Count Struenſee was dreſſed in green and gold, and Brandt in blue and gold. Struenſee, after his hand was cut off, roſe up, and was obliged by force to ſit down again; but Brandt did not move at all."

Another letter from Copenhagen confirms the above account, and adds the following particulars.

"Struenſee's ſentence takes up five full ſheets of paper. Among the charges

ges therein contained againſt him are, his having aſſumed too great a power to himſelf; his injuring the King's treaſure for more than fifteen tons of gold [xxx. 139.]; his forging (or falſifying) a draught; his diſcharging the guards; the ſuſpicious arrangements he had been ordering within the walls of this place, &c.—Brandt's ſentence expreſsly ſays, that on account of his deſigns agitated *immediately* againſt the ſacred perſon of his Majeſty, the exceptions he made could not be admitted, and therefore declared guilty and condemned.—Brandt appeared firſt on the ſcaffold, he ſpoke for ſome little time to his clergyman Mr Hee, after which the ſentence was read and executed: his head was ſeveral times expoſed to the view of an immenſe croud of ſpectators. Next appeared Struenſee on the ſcaffold, accompanied by Dr Munter, to whom he ſpoke: when done, his ſentence was executed in every ſhape like the foregoing one. Their corpſes were carried to the uſual place of execution, to be there expoſed. Struenſee behaved very penitently; but this cannot be ſaid of Brandt, for his whole conduct was remarkably bold. Several files of ſoldiers and ſailors guarded the ſcaffold, and the town-guards were alſo reinforced. Though immenſe numbers were, for want of room, diſappointed of ſeeing this execution, and all ſeemed for a while in a violent ferment, yet the whole went off undiſturbed and quietly."

"*Copenhagen, April* 30. In my laſt I gave you an account of the execution of Counts Struenſee and Brandt; but, through hurry, omitted to mention the crimes they were charged with, which are as follows. Struenſee was convicted of having embezzled from the King's coffers almoſt ſix tons of gold, amounting to 125,000l. Sterling; of having expedited many orders from the cabinet, without the King's knowledge; of having been guilty of criminal converſation; of having kept from the King, and never delivered to him, ſeveral letters ſent to his Majeſty, &c. Count Brandt was convicted of having been privy to Struenſee's criminal converſation, and all his other crimes, without divulging them; and of having laid violent hands on the King's Majeſty, &c. The ſcaffold on which the above criminals were executed is ordered to remain on the place where it now is for a month longer; from which circumſtance it is ſuppoſed, that ſome more of the ſtate-priſoners will ſuffer death. The Colonels Falkenſchiold and Heſſelberg are brought to the apartments in the citadel wherein Struenſee and Brandt had been confined."

The accounts concerning the Queen's fate are ſo contradictory, that we defer inſerting any particulars till ſomething more certain appear. Some of them ſay, that the Queen is divorced, and to be confined priſoner for life in the caſtle of Aalbourg; others again affirm, that his Britannic Majeſty is to afford her a retreat, ſuitable to her dignity, at Zell, a town in his Hanoverian dominions.

"*Copenhagen, April* 7. The government, to prevent the abuſe which might reſult from the ordinance of the 28th of June 1771, regarding adultery, on account of that crime being in a manner looked upon with impunity, has revoked it, and put that of the 27th of Auguſt 1737, in force, which inflicts a puniſhment on thoſe guilty of that crime." [xxxiii. 376.]

"*London, April* 1. They adviſe from Copenhagen, that the Dey of Algiers, in conſideration of a magnificent preſent, has concluded a treaty with that court, and has given orders for all the Daniſh ſubjects at preſent impriſoned in his territories to be immediately releaſed. The veſſels lately confiſcated are alſo to be delivered up."

GERMANY.

"*Vienna, March* 18. Laſt Sunday morning advice was received, that Count Colloredo, Prince Biſhop of Gurck, and ſon of Prince Colloredo, Vice-Chancellor of the Empire, had been unanimouſly, on the 14th inſtant, elected Archbiſhop of Saltzburgh." *Lond. gaz.*

"*Manheim, Feb.* 20. Near a village called Neder Ulm, in our environs, the following unaccountable accident happened. A mountain in the neighbourhood of the ſaid village ſunk more than twenty feet below the ſurface of the land which ſurrounded it. The top, which was covered with trees, was thrown off more than 100 paces in a neighbouring field. The inhabitants of the village felt no commotion, but heard a noiſe like firing of cannon."

"*Francfort on the Mayne, March* 5. The waters of the Mayne and the Rhine have overflown their banks, and have ſpread as far as Mentz. This inundation has done vaſt damage to the lands that were

were fown, and will be an immenſe loſs to the proprietors."

"*Bruſſels, March* 3. The diſtemper among the horned cattle continues to rage in the neighbourhood of Bruges, and with greater violence in Dutch Flanders: it has alſo ſpread in Artois and Picardy. All the boaſted noſtrums and promiſes of the French ſtudents have failed. We follow now the method directed by the Engliſh phyſicians; and it would have been happy for us, and our neighbours, if we had in time taken the ſame ſteps as the Britiſh government ordered, to root out at once this terrible calamity." [xxxii. 172.]

"*Vienna, March* 20. The Emperor has at laſt ſucceeded in furniſhing Bohemia with a quantity of corn ſufficient to diminiſh the price; but finding that many of his ſubjects wanted money, he has lately diſtributed large ſums among the indigent to furniſh them with proviſions till the enſuing ſeaſon."

"*Prague, March* 28. The ſituation of this kingdom is ſtill the ſame. In ſeveral of the circles the inhabitants are forced to ſupply the want of bread by eating the bark of trees, &c. They devour alſo all the horſes, dogs, and cats, they can catch. This dreadful famine is concealed as much as poſſible; but a diſmal mortality has ariſen from it. Above 100,000 perſons are reckoned to have died of it within the ſpace of a year; and, according to the report of the circles, 4000 now die in eight days time."

"*Vienna, April* 4. They write from Zwetel in Lower Auſtria, that a fire has conſumed 300 houſes there, which has reduced the inhabitants to the greateſt miſery."

"*Nordhauſſen, March* 20. A worm is got into the corn in moſt of the granaries of this country, which makes great havock, and it is apprehended will be attended with very fatal conſequences, if ſome means be not found to deſtroy it. Neceſſity has ſo far awakened the induſtry of people in this diſtreſsful ſeaſon, that upwards of eighty different ſorts of bread, and many ſoups heretofore unknown, or not made uſe of, have been brought to light, to which ſeveral people have recourſe to help out during the preſent ſcarcity of corn both natural and artificial. Upwards of twenty new kinds of tea and coffee are likewiſe now made uſe of on the ſame account."

"*London, April* 2. One Dankaert, a Dutchman, who had ingroſſed a conſiderable quantity of corn, near Nieuport in Flanders, was, on the 15th of laſt month, ſeized by a numerous mob, who pulled down his houſe, after dividing his corn and other proviſions, and carried him down to the ſea-coaſt, where they tied his hands behind him, and put him into a ſmall fiſhing-boat, and towed him out to ſea, where they left him to die that death, which, they ſaid, he had been the means of inflicting on ſeveral of his neighbours."

"*Vienna, April* 18. We are aſſured that Count Eſterhaſi has entered into Poland, at the head of the Imperial troops which formed the line on the frontiers of Upper Sileſia, with a deſign to join the Pruſſians and Ruſſians, to act againſt the Confederates."

"*Vienna, April* 28. Several regiments of light horſe and huſſars have received orders to go and reinforce the Auſtrian troops which are deſtined to enter Poland. It is ſaid this corps will be compoſed of 22,000 men, and being joined by ſome battalions of Croats, will march towards Cracovia."

ITALY.

"*Naples, April* 10. This country ſeems to give birth to crimes unequalled in any other part of the world for their cruelty and guilt. Whether it be that this proceeds from the uncommon heat of the climate working upon the blood of the people, or from ſome other cauſe, is uncertain; but we have frequent inſtances here of crimes which are dreadful even beyond credibility.—A few days ago, two artiſans, who were drinking together, quarrelled in their cups; on which one of them immediately drew a ſtiletto, and laid his companion dead upon the ſpot. A ſoldier who was preſent, reſolving to be revenged of the aſſaſſin, for the murder of the deceaſed, who was his friend, ſnatched up a knife from a table, and plunged it in his heart. This latter, though the blood guſhed faſt from his wound, purſued the ſoldier, holding the ſtiletto in his hand; but deſpairing of overtaking him, he took the barbarous reſolution to ſtab every one that came in his way. He ſoon laid ſeven dead upon the ſtreet, and wounded many more. This monſter at laſt, exhauſted by loſs of blood, fell down, and a prieſt coming to give him aſſiſtance, he raiſed his arm to ſtab him, but expired before he could ſtrike the blow."

"*London,*

"*London, April* 18. A veſſel from Genoa brings an account, that a very daring conſpiracy has been lately diſcovered there among the natives and other inhabitants, who propoſed to murder ſome of the council. Many were actually found under arms. This is the third conſpiracy within theſe two years."

SPAIN.

"*Charleſtown, South Carolina, Feb.* 14. An account was received here yeſterday from St Euſtatia, dated Jan. 17. which informs us, that about three weeks before, the Spaniards took a ſchooner, as ſhe lay at Crab iſland, loading with poſts. Crab iſland is mentioned in the Governor of Tortola's commiſſion as one of the Virgin iſlands under his command. Adm. Man ſent down a frigate to demand the ſchooner and her crew, but the frigate returned Jan. 16. without either. The Spaniſh Governor told the Captain of the frigate, that he had orders for what he did, and that he would continue to do as he had done, till his orders were countermanded. The Britiſh officers who went aſhore were uſed like criminals, being put under a double guard of Spaniards as ſoon as they landed."

"*Charleſtown, Feb.* 20. Advices from Jamaica, of the 3d inſtant, ſay, That immediately on the arrival of the Marquis de Torres at the Havanna, he diſpatched expreſſes over all Cuba, for the inhabitants to put themſelves in the beſt ſtate of defence, and iſſued orders for all the guarda coſtas to repair, as ſoon as poſſible, to the Havanna."

PORTUGAL.

"*Liſbon, April* 7. On the 5th inſt. ſoon after midnight, an earthquake happened here, which continued for two minutes. The weather was ſerene, the ſky ſtar-light, and the air perfectly calm. The direction of the ſhock was from ſouth to north, with equal vibrations, which were ſtrong and laſting. A ſubterranean noiſe was heard at the ſame time, which continued as long as the ſhocks."

"*Liſbon, April* 7. Sunday at midnight two violent ſhocks of earthquakes happened here, which laſted two minutes, and alarmed all Liſbon. I was in company with about twenty perſons of both ſexes at ſupper, in the houſe of a Hamburg merchant. This earthquake was preceded by the howling of dogs, and the melancholy crowing of cocks. The inhabitants of the country are well acquainted with this kind of preamble. All the company turned pale; and immediately we heard a ſubterranean noiſe, with howlings and whiſtlings as in a great ſtorm. This was immediately followed by an horizontal ſhock, which moved every thing in the room. We ran towards the door, when another ſhock ſtill ſtronger than the firſt had like to have thrown us all down. The ſtairs by which we deſcended ſhook for two minutes, which is a long time under ſuch circumſtances. We have not yet heard of any damage done by this earthquake, but as the chief force of it was in the country, there has not yet been time for the news to come."

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

"*Newbern, North Carolina, Jan.* 3. In our aſſembly on the 21ſt, the members reſolved, That a committee be appointed to draw up an addreſs to his Majeſty, the Lords and Commons of Great Britain, ſetting forth, That this Houſe, ever ready to ſupport his Majeſty's honour and dignity, have, with ſpirit and liberality, fallen upon a method to pay the great expence of the late expedition againſt the inſurgents, in ſupport of his Majeſty's government; but being reſtricted from emitting a paper-currency, ſo as to be a legal tender in payment of debts, the only method they could, in the diſtreſſed ſituation of the country, fall upon, was by ſtamping debenture-bills, as a temporary expedient, chargeable on the public treaſury of this province; but as this expedient is attended with great inconvenience to the public, and thoſe individuals who are to receive them, may ſuffer injury from their depretiation, and as ſuch individuals are thoſe who have, at the hazard of their lives, ſtood in ſupport of his Majeſty's government, and the conſtitution of this colony, to pray, that in conſideration of theſe people, as well as of the ſituation of this province, labouring under the greateſt diſtreſs for want of a currency, the act of parliament againſt iſſuing a paper-currency may be repealed, as far, at leaſt, as reſpects this colony. And that in the addreſs the committee ſet forth, that the Houſe will frame this law ſo as

to prevent Britiſh creditors from ſuffering, ſhould ſuch currency depretiate in value."

"*New York, Feb.* 27. The Hon. Houſe of Repreſentatives of this colony having, on the 11th inſt. reſolved, That his Excellency Governor Tryon be allowed, for his adminiſtering the government of this colony, from the 8th of July 1771, to the 1ſt day of September 1772, after the rate of 2000l. per ann. and for firewood and candles for his Majeſty's Fort George, during the ſame time, after the rate of 400l. per ann.; on the 13th, his Excellency ſent a meſſage to the Houſe, in the words following.

"Gentlemen, Obſerving in the votes of your Houſe of the 11th inſt. that you have voted me a ſalary as Governor of this Province, it is my duty to lay before you an extract from his Majeſty's inſtruction, which will apologize for my not accepting that liberal proviſion you intended for my ſupport."

"*Extract from his Majeſty's inſtructions to Governor Tryon.* Whereas ſeveral inconveniencies have ariſen to our governments in the plantations, by gifts and preſents made to our Governors by the General Aſſemblies; for the preventing thereof for the future, it is our expreſs will and pleaſure, That neither you our Governor, Commander in Chief, or Preſident of the Council of our ſaid province of New York, for the time being, do give your or their conſent to the paſſing any law or act, for any gift or preſent to be made to you or them, by the Aſſembly; and that neither you, nor they, do receive any gift or preſent from the Aſſembly or others on any account, or in any manner whatſoever, upon pain of our higheſt diſpleaſure, and of being recalled from that our government."

BRITISH WEST INDIES.

"*Grenada, Jan.* 29. Our Lieutenant-Governor having iſſued writs for electing a new aſſembly in this iſland, in which Roman Catholics are admitted members; and this meaſure having occaſioned great diſturbances here; ſeveral gentlemen who were expected to offer themſelves as candidates to repreſent different towns, have declined the ſolicitations of the freeholders; alledging, that they conſider the writs as illegal, becauſe they allow the choice of Roman Catholics to be members; but that they will uſe their utmoſt endeavours in every legal way to reſtore to the people all thoſe liberties and privileges they are intitled to by their birthright, and by the laws of their country."

BRITISH EAST INDIES.

"*Extract of a letter from Poonamalz, near Madraſs, dated Oct.* 8. 1771. The deſign of taking Tanjore having been renewed, our army marched the 11th of laſt month towards that place. On the 18th batteries were opened againſt a ſtrong fort called *Vellum*, ſeven miles from Tanjore. The enemy deſerted it the 20th at midnight, and we took poſſeſſion of it the 21ſt, early in the morning."

"*Rotterdam, April* 13. Advices have been received here from the Eaſt Indies, which inform us, that the Engliſh are beſieging the Nabob of Tanjore in his capital; and they further add, that they intend to build a fortreſs at Negâno, a maritime port about half a league from Negapatnam, belonging to the Nabob of Tanjore. This event will be very diſagreeable to the Dutch company, as the Engliſh may, by that ſituation, ruin the Dutch trade there."

ENGLAND.

On the 1ſt of April the King gave the royal aſſent to the following bills.

An act for the better regulating the future marriages of the Royal Family. [169.]

An act for explaining and amending an act 7° Geo III. [xxix. 323.], *intitled,* "*An act for taking off the inland duty of one ſhilling per pound-weight upon all black and ſingle teas conſumed in Great Britain; and for granting a drawback upon the exportation of teas to Ireland and the Britiſh dominions in America, for a limited time, upon ſuch indemnification to be made in reſpect thereof by the Eaſt-India company as is therein mentioned; for permitting the exportation of teas in ſmaller quantities than one lot to Ireland, or the ſaid dominions in America; and for preventing teas ſeized and condemned from being conſumed in Great Britain;*" *and for ſettling certain doubts and diſputes which have ariſen upon the ſaid act of parliament.*

An act for defraying the charge of the pay and cloathing of the militia in that part of Great Britain called England, for one year, beginning the 25th day of March 1772.

An act for further continuing two acts, 6° & 7° Geo. III. for puniſhing mutiny and deſertion, and for the better payment of the army and their quarters, in his Majeſty's dominions in America.

An

An act for allowing further time for inrolment of deeds and wills made by Papiſts, and for relief of Proteſtant purchaſers.

Seventeen public bills beſides; of which eight are road-bills, and nine relate to other matters of police. Four of them relate to Scotland, viz.

An act for deepening, cleanſing, ſcouring, preſerving and maintaining, the harbour of Port-Glaſgow; for enlarging and improving the quays and piers; for erecting new breaſts, jettees, and piers; and for regulating ſhips, lighters, and other veſſels, trading into, and going out of the ſaid harbour; and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.

An act for lighting, cleanſing, and watching, the ſtreets, lanes, and other paſſages, of the burgh of Canongate, and the liberties of Pleaſance and Leith-wynd, adjoining to the royalty of the city of Edinburgh.

An act to continue, and render more effectual, an act 26° Geo. II. for repairing the road from the North Queensferry, through the towns of Inverkeithing and Kinroſs, to the town of Perth; and alſo the road from the ſaid Queensferry, to the towns of Dunfermline, Torryburn, and Culroſs; and alſo the road from the ſaid Queensferry, thro' Inverkeithing, to Burntiſland and Kirkaldie.

An act for widening and repairing ſeveral roads, leading through the county of Lanerk; and for building a bridge over the river Clyde, at or near a place called The Howfoot, *in the ſaid county.*

The ſix other road-bills relate to roads in England; and three of the remaining ſeven bills that relate to other matters of police, are for the improvement of navigation, viz. for deepening and improving the haven and piers of Great Yarmouth; — for making a navigable canal from the Dee, near Cheſter, to Middlewich and Nantwich; — and for improving the navigation of the Loyne, or Lune, and building a quay or wharf near Lancaſter.

And forty-three private bills; none of which, or of thoſe paſſed on the 11th and 26th of February [107.], relate to Scotland. Of the forty-three now paſſed, thirty are for incloſing and dividing commons, &c. and four are for diſſolving marriages, and enabling the huſband to marry again, viz. that of Edward Viſcount Ligonier with Penelope Pitt [xxxiii. 704.], that of Sir John Colleton, Bt, with Anne Tullford, that of Hugh Lewis with Suſannah Hale otherwiſe Heale, and that of Ambroſe Godfrey Hanckwitz with Dorothy Aſhcroft.

And to theſe on the 16th of April, viz.

An act for the more effectual veſting, in the royal hoſpital at Greenwich, the forfeited and unclaimed ſhares of naval officers, ſeamen, and marines, in prizes taken from the enemy; and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.

An act for the relief of inſolvent debtors; and for indemnifying the marſhal of the king's-bench priſon from proſecutions at law for certain eſcapes from the ſaid priſon.

An act for giving relief in proceedings upon writs of Mandamus, for the admiſſion of freemen into corporations; and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.

An act for the more effectual proceeding againſt perſons ſtanding mute on their arraignment for felony or piracy.

An act for the better ſecuring and preſerving his Majeſty's dock-yards, magazines, ſhips, ammunition, and ſtores.

Nineteen public bills more; of which thirteen are road-bills, and the remaining ſix relate to other matters of police. Two of the nineteen relate to Scotland, viz.

An act for deepening, cleaning, ſcouring, preſerving and maintaining, the harbour of Ayr; for enlarging and improving the quays and piers; for erecting docks, breaſts, jettees, and piers; and for regulating ſhips, lighters, and other veſſels, trading into, and going out of, the ſaid harbour; and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.

An act for repairing and widening the roads, from the confines of the county of Berwick, at or near Bankhouſe Walls, to Compton's Lands and Eymouth, and from the town of Eccles to Eymouth, and from Whitelaw Muir to Compton's Lanes, in the county of Berwick.

And twenty-ſix private bills; none of which relate to Scotland. Fifteen of them are for incloſing and dividing commons; and two of them are for diſſolving marriages, and enabling the huſbands to marry again, viz. that of Richard Draper with Eliſabeth Hartnell, and that of William Skinn with Anne Skinn.

" *London, March* 12. In a letter, dated, Fort Egmont, Nov. 10. 1771, the writer ſays, " We have ſettled very amicably with the Spaniards, and I really believe they have acted with good faith in the return of the ſtores [107.] I wonder much how they could be jealous

of our ſettling in this miſerable country, where, I aſſure you, it is hardly poſſible to bring up any produce to the ſmalleſt perfection; more eſpecially as they have the fine country of Buenos Ayres ſo near. At any rate, we can never defend a ſettlement in this part; ſo that it will be always a prey to the Spaniards if they chuſe it."

At a numerous meeting of the proprietors of Eaſt-India ſtock, March 4. the chairman acquainted the proprietors, "That as the directors had hinted to the proprietary the laſt court, that the affairs in Bengal were in a diſagreeable ſituation, and that the remedying them was then under conſideration; he was now to acquaint them, that after much debate and attention, the directors, with the advice of ſome of the moſt learned in the law in theſe kingdoms, had digeſted a plan for their better regulation, which, with their concurrence, was ready to be laid before the parliament." The opinion of the court being to have them read, the clerk accordingly read them, of which the following form the principal articles.

"That the Preſident and Council of Bengal ſhould not, for the future, be permitted to trade in any one reſpect whatſoever; that eighteen months time ſhould be allowed them to ſell off ſuch goods as might lay upon their hands, and collect in their debts; and for the due obſervance of this, they were to take an oath declarative of the above, the breaking of which was to ſubject them to all the conſequences of perjury, as by law eſtabliſhed, as well as fines and impriſonment.

That every free merchant ſhould, on the commencement of this act, be obliged to take out a freſh licence, under ſuch reſtrictions as the Preſident and Council ſhould think fit, under the penalty of fine and impriſonment.

That no ſubject of this kingdom, being in India, ſhall be permitted to buy up any warlick ſtores, on the ſame penalty; and that, for the more ready detection of all ſuch offences, half the forfeitures ſhall go to the informers.

That his Majeſty be impowered, by the advice of his privy council, *to grant a new charter to the Mayor's Court in Bengal, conſtituting a Chief Juſtice, and three other Judges, who were to be called*, The Supreme Court of Judicature; *and that all criminal matters were to be tried by jury, and all civil ones by depoſitions; ſubject, nevertheleſs, to the appeal of the Preſident and Council, and from them to his Majeſty and Privy Council here.*"

Some of the propoſed enacting clauſes having been objected to, Sir George Colebrooke made a motion, which was ſeconded, viz. "That it be recommended to the Court of Directors to apply to the crown for a new charter, for the better regulation of the Mayor's Court in Bengal, as well as to parliament for regulating the affairs of the Company's ſervants in India." Which, after much debate and altercation, paſſed.—Leave was given by the Commons, March 30. [134.] to bring in a bill for the above purpoſe.

"*London, March* 24. Sir James Steuart, Bt, was preſented to the King at St James's, by Lord Barrington, on Friday laſt, and moſt graciouſly received. This gentleman had been many years abroad, on account of his being concerned in the late rebellion, for which he received his Majeſty's pardon. [xxxiii. 699.]

On the 25th of March the Earl of Bute ſet out from London, for Dover, in order to imbark for France. [xxxiii. 322.]

The Stag man of war, Sir John Lindſay [xxxiii. 679.], from Madraſs, arrived at Portſmouth before the end of March. Capt. Compton, of the Vereſt Indiaman, which was loſt on the Iſle of France [xxxiii. 605, 98.], with the reſt of the officers, are come home in this ſhip.

On Friday, March 13. they began to pay the artificers and workmen in the dock-yard at Chatham half a year's wages, *viz.* Michaelmas and Chriſtmas quarters 1771, and finiſhed paying them on the Monday following. Next day they paid the ordinary.—All the dock-yards are for the future to be paid every three months: which will be an excellent alteration for the artificers who have families, as they may then do without ſelling their pay, which at preſent many are obliged to do at a great diſadvantage.

About the end of March a ſquadron of force was ordered to be fitted out at Chatham, ſaid to be for a northern expedition; and all the ſhips of war in Portſmouth harbour to be put in readineſs for any ſudden emergency. On the 18th of April orders were received at Portſmouth, for fitting out four ſhips of the line and a frigate, with all poſſible expedition. Like orders were received at Chatham and Plymouth about the

ſame

ſame time. But upon ſome favourable advices received at court from the North, theſe orders were countermanded.—The armament preparing was only, it is ſaid, to ſtrengthen a negotiation now on foot with that court. The court at St James's inſiſt, that no ſentence ſhall be paſſed on her Daniſh Majeſty, the evidence againſt her being only preſumptive, and very inconcluſive. The articles ſaid to be proved, have been actually ſent to London; and have been ſubmitted to the opinions of the firſt lawyers; who, though conſulted ſeparately, have all declared, that the evidence brought is ſo far from being legal conviction, that it ſcarce amounts to a bare preſumption of guilt; and they affirm, that they not only do not give credit to any of the facts as lawyers, but even find themſelves obliged to diſbelieve them as men.

"*London, April* 21. The conditions propoſed by the King and Regency of Denmark, after being thoroughly examined, were approved, and a ſpecial meſſenger appointed to carry inſtructions to Sir Robert Murray-Keith, at Copenhagen, agreeable thereto."

According to one of the London papers, by the original ſentence which the Daniſh committee of inquiſition pronounced againſt the Queen of Denmark, ſhe was doomed to the block. Our court firſt remonſtrated, and then threatened. This ſoftened the rigour of Daniſh juſtice, and they conſented to yield the unhappy princeſs to her brother, on the expreſs condition that ſhe ſhould never more ſet foot in Denmark. Part of her dowry was then demanded; the Danes abſolutely refuſed to reſtore a ſingle penny. An annual penſion was then demanded; this was alſo refuſed. The reſolution of the Danes ſtaggered the miniſter; and, rather than hazard the event of a war with that feeble enemy, conſented to theſe humiliating terms: That the court of Denmark ſhould *nominally* aſſent to the payment of an annual penſion to her Majeſty, but that it ſhould be *really* paid out of the coffers of Britain. On theſe conditions, the fleet at Portſmouth was ordered to be unrigged, and the Queen is to live in ſtate at Zell, at the expence of Britain.

"*London, April* 7. We hear that a celebrated club, not an hundred miles from Pall-mall, who, on the cloſe of the laſt rebellion, ſupplied the Wanderer, for ſome years, with an annuity of 5000*l.* but who lately ſtopped it on account, as was ſaid, of his diſſipated courſe of life, have, on a late letter from him, informing them of his intended marriage [165.], and future intentions of œconomy, agreed to renew the ſubſcription, and have actually ſent him over 5000 *l.* with the promiſe of the like ſum annually."

"*London, April* 9. A morning-paper ſays, it is certain Prince Maſſerano, ambaſſador from the King of Spain, has moſt ſtrongly remonſtrated againſt any Britiſh ſhips of war entering the South ſeas, on the ſcore of making diſcoveries in that part of the globe; and has even gone ſo far as to declare, that after ſo juſt and amicable a remonſtrance, the King of Spain will be under the abſolute neceſſity of vindicating his own ſovereign right to thoſe ſeas, and conſequently will give orders to ſeize all ſhips of war that ſhall be found making diſcoveries *in* or *through* the South ſeas, without a ſpecial licence from the crown of Spain."

"*London, April* 11. An evening-paper of laſt night ſays, A gentleman of conſequence has favoured us with the *concluſion* of the laſt conference between Prince Maſſerano, the Spaniſh ambaſſador, and our ſecretary of ſtate.—The ambaſſador, after charging the Britiſh court, in a haughty and imperious tone, with infraction of treaties by ſome late orders ſent to the Britiſh governors in the Weſt Indies, and by the deſign now going to be executed of proſecuting diſcoveries in the South ſeas, concluded with ſaying, "That he believed his maſter would not blame him, if he was to leave the Britiſh court on this occaſion without taking his leave." "Then (ſaid the miniſter, turning on his heel as he was opening the door) I wiſh your Excellency a good journey, in caſe I ſhould not ſee you again."

Letters from almoſt every part of the kingdom bring melancholy accounts of the diſtreſſes of the poor, and of their readineſs to riſe and do miſchief. Unhappy it will be for the poor, if they ſhould, in their deſpair, waſte and deſtroy what little corn there remains in the kingdom. Inſtead of abuſing the farmers who have ſtocks of corn yet in ricks unthreſhed, they ought to rejoice that there are ſuch people, who by their opulence, are enabled to keep up their ſtocks to provide againſt a famine. What muſt become of us, if all the corn in the land were at this hour either in the barns,

or

or in the mills? Could we then ſubſiſt a ſingle month? Surely, the poor will reſt ſatisfied, when they ſee ſuch a liberal ſpirit every where among the rich to relieve their diſtreſs. It is hoped, that in a few months their wants will be ſupplied by a plentiful harveſt; which, inſtead of murmurs and outrages, we ſhould all join in devoutly praying Heaven to ſend.

Several aſſociations have been ſet on foot for reducing the exorbitant price of butcher's meat. One was formed at Briſtol in February; whoſe plan is, to buy in live cattle, have them killed, and retail them at prime coſt. Another was formed, in March, at the Chapter coffee-houſe, in St Paul's church-yard, London, to which, by the 29th of that month, the ſum of 9600 l. was ſubſcribed; and it is ſaid the ſociety has received ſuch authentic information of the extravagant profits that are made by jobbers and butchers before meat can be brought to the table of the conſumer, as will enable them to fall the price of meat at leaſt one fourth.

Books of ſubſcription were left at the Chapter, Lloyd's, and Caroline coffee-houſes, March 20. for raiſing 1000 guineas, to give a bounty of 10 l. per month to all Britiſh fiſhing-veſſels that ſhall be employed on the turbot-fiſhery in 1772, according to the directions preſcribed. The Dutch have taken this trade to themſelves, and, at a time when many of our fiſhing-veſſels lay up for want of money to buy the neceſſary tackling, take from us upwards of 60,000 l. a-year for turbot. Lieut. Dyſon will, with leave of the admiralty, go out with the veſſels that ſhall receive the bounty.

On Wedneſday, March 18. the ſubſtantial inhabitants of Sunderland began a ſubſcription, which on the firſt day amounted to upwards of 120 l. for the ſupply of the poor of that place with proviſions. It was ordered, that breakfaſt, dinner, and ſupper, ſhould be daily provided in the great room of the poor-houſe, for all ſuch as are in immediate want of ſuſtenance. A committee of inquiry was appointed, to ſit every day, to receive contributions, prevent abuſes, and ſend relief to the ſick and infirm at their own houſes, and particularly to ſearch for and aſſiſt perſons who formerly enjoyed a genteel competency, and are by misfortunes reduced to indigence, but from a ſenſe of ſhame, uſual in ſuch caſes, will not make their diſtreſſes known.

MARRIAGES.

April 8. At Edinburgh, David Smyth, Eſq; of Methven, to Miſs Eliſabeth Murray, eldeſt daughter of the deceaſed Sir Robert Murray, Bt.

23. At Edinburgh, Mr John Welſh, writer to the Signet, to Miſs Gaſcoigne.

25. At Knowſley, the ſeat of the Earl of Derby in Lancaſhire, Jeffery Hornby jun. Eſq; of Preſton, to Miſs Stanley, ſecond daughter of Lord Strange.

27. At Hackwood Park, in Hants, Lord Hinchinbroke, to the Lady Mary Paulet, daughter of the Duke of Bolton.

29. At Caridden, William Millar, Eſq; of Walkinſhaw, to Miſs Napier of Blackſtone.

30. At Lord Boſton's houſe, London, Thomas De Grey, Eſq; ſon of Lord-Chief Juſtice De Grey, and one of the Grooms of the Bedchamber to his Majeſty, to Miſs Irby, only daughter of Lord Boſton.

BIRTHS.

April 6. At London, the lady of Lord Archibald Hamilton, of a daughter.

10. At Roſſie, near Montroſe, Mrs Scott, younger of Benholm, of a daughter.

21. At Briſbane, Mrs Briſbane of Briſbane, of a daughter.

22. At London, the lady of Sir James Cockburn, Bt. of a ſon.

28. Mrs Scott of Craigie, of a daughter.

28. At Geanies in Roſs-ſhire, Mrs Macleod younger of Geanies, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

At Lanni, in Sweden, Andrew Larſſon, aged 115. He left no iſſue, though married to three wives.

Helena Sophia, mother to the Elector of Mentz, aged 92.

The Hon. and learned Emanuel Swedenborg, famous for his mathematical works, and for his viſionary.

William Hunt, the oldeſt inhabitant of Maryland, aged 113.

March 24. Mrs Shanks, of Devonſhire ſquare, London, worth 60,000 l. which ſhe has left to charitable uſes.

April 1. At Dunkirk, Capt. R. Creed, aged 100.

3. Lady Greville, wife to Lord Greville, eldeſt ſon of the Earl of Warwick. She died in childbed. [165.].

7. At his houſe of Belminnoch, in the iſle of Sky, Alexander Macleod of Belminnoch, Eſq; captain in the late 78th regiment. (Col. Fraſer's.)

8. Mrs Hinks, of Budge-ſtreet, London, aged 118. She has left 1100 l. to ten pariſhes.

8. At the Abbey-hill, near Edinburgh, Alexander

Alexander Dryſdale, gardener, aged 107. He retained his ſenſes to the laſt.

9. At Edinburgh, Charles Buchanan, youngeſt ſon of Mr Buchanan Kincaid of Carbeth.

10. At London, Mrs Mackenzie, widow of George Mackenzie, Eſq; ſon of the firſt marriage of John Mackenzie, Eſq; of Delvin. [xxviii. 389.].

10. At Streatham, Eliſabeth Ruſſel, [Page,] aged 108. Upon ſtripping the body of the deceaſed, the characteriſtics of manhood were found. Fortune-telling was the chief buſineſs of this *hic vel hæc homo*.

11. At Glaſgow, Mr John Gilmour, bookſeller in that city.

11. At Berwick, on the march to Scotland, of a ſudden illneſs which ſeized him in his chair whilſt ſitting amidſt his friends, Dr Peter Mackenzie of the Prince of Wales's regiment of dragoons.

12. At Edinburgh, Mr Thomas Lancaſhire, comedian.

12. At Corney, in Cumberland, John Noble, aged 114. He never experienced what ſickneſs was.

12. At London, Lady Caroline Bouverie, daughter of the Earl of Radnor.

13. At his houſe in Roſs-ſhire, in the 68th year of his age, Hugh Macleod, Eſq; of Geanies.

14. At Edinburgh, Mr William Cooper, ſurgeon to the firſt regiment of dragoon-guards.

15. At Fairnington, Mrs Mary Ker, daughter of the deceaſed Walter Ker of Littledean, Eſq; relict of George Rutherfurd of Fairnington, Eſq; and of Mr James Scott, clerk of Dalkeith.

16. At Edinburgh, James Stewart of Stewartfield, Eſq; merchant, and formerly one of the magiſtrates of that city.

17. At Irvine, Thomas Boyd of Pitcon, Eſq; in an advanced age.

18. At Tanlaw, near Hawick, Robert Scott of Cowdhouſe, Eſq; aged 90 and upwards.

At the George inn at Uſk, Monmouthſhire, Mr Philip Maſon, a man of a remarkable large ſize: he meaſured at the wriſt 11 inches; at his arm near the ſhoulder, 21 inches; round the breaſt, 5 feet; body, 6 feet 1 inch; thigh, 3 feet 1 inch; calf of the leg, 2 feet 1 inch; ſmall of ditto, 1 foot 7 inches; and, notwithſtanding his bulk, was extremely active.

19. At Edinburgh, Miſs Helen Joaſs, daughter of the deceaſed George Joaſs of Colleonard, Eſq;

19. At Eton, in Berks, Mrs Jane Shirley, a widow lady, aged 102.

20. At her houſe in Drumſeugh, near Edinburgh, Mrs Eliſabeth Holte, widow of Dr James Mackenzie, late of Worceſter [xviii. 447.], and daughter of the late Sir Charles Holte of Aſtonhall in Warwickſhire, Bt.

20. At her houſe in Dunkeld, Anne Mackenzie, widow of Alexander Robertſon, Eſq; of Faſkally, who died in 1732, and mother of George Robertſon, Eſq; now of Faſkally. She was buried in the family-chapel at Faſkally on Saturday April 25. This lady was eldeſt daughter of John Mackenzie, Eſq; of Delvin, one of the Principal Clerks of Seſſion, who died Oct. 6. 1731. [xiv. 150.]

20. At Edinburgh, Mr Berry, ſtudent of phyſic, a young gentleman from the Weſt of England.

At Utrecht, Mr Vanderhauſen, a celebrated painter and hiſtorian, aged 94.

23. At Edinburgh, Mr Bentley, ſtudent of phyſic, a young gentleman from Jamaica.

23. At Glaſgow, Andrew Aiton, Eſq; merchant, and ſome years ago Lord Provoſt of that city.

23. In Rotherhithe workhouſe, John Whalley, aged 121.

23. At Denoon, John Macarthur of Milltown, Eſq;

24. At Edinburgh, Mrs Barbara Paterſon.

24. At his houſe in Fife, David Boſwall of Dovan, Eſq;

25. At Lees, in an advanced age, Mrs Rachel Marjoribanks, daughter of the deceaſed James Marjoribanks, Eſq; of Lees.

25. James Wallace of Wallacetown, Eſq; As this gentleman was going home from Logan houſe, he unluckily paſſed too near the rocks on the water of Logan, and falling over a very ſteep precipice, was found dead next morning, with his head much cut and bruiſed.

26. At London, Captain Hill, late in the ſervice of the Eaſt-India company, ſaid to have died worth 100,000 l.

27. At Garſcadden, the Hon. Mrs Colquhoun.

PREFERMENTS.

From the London Gazette.

War-office, April 22. 1772.

1ſt troop of horſe-guards: Enſ. Thomas Otger, of the 6th regiment of foot, is appointed to be Sub-Brigadier and Cornet, vice John Beckford preferred; by purchaſe.

1ſt troop of horſe grenadier guards: Sub-Brig. and Corn. John Beckford, of the 1ſt troop of life-guards, to be Adjutant and Sub-Lieutenant, vice William Whitby, preferred; by purchaſe.

2d reg. of dragoons: William Sinclair, Gent. to be Cornet, vice Richard Johnſton, preferred; by purchaſe.

3d reg of dragoons: Enſ. William Waller, of the 6th regiment of foot, to be Cornet, vice Charles Vavaſor; by purchaſe.

11th reg of dragoons: Collet Mawhood, Gent. to be Cornet, vice Charles Grevis, preferred; by purchaſe.

25th

15th reg. of dragoons: The Hon. Henry-Fitzroy Stanhope to be Cornet, vice William Younge; by purchaſe.

1ſt reg. of foot-guards: Enſ. Charles Frederick to be Lieutenant, vice John Lee; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Charles Whitworth, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Charles Frederick; by purchaſe.

Coldſtream reg. of foot-guards: Capt. Richard Grenville, of the 24th regiment of foot, to be Captain of a company, vice William Wright; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Juſtice Willis, junior, to be Solicitor, vice Juſtice Willis, deceaſed.

3d reg. of foot-guards: Arnoldius Jones Skelton, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Robert John Godfrey; by purchaſe.

1ſt bat. of the royal reg. of foot: Robert Corſane, Gent. to be Enſign, vice James Scrimſour, preferred; by purchaſe.

7th reg. of foot: Anthony Lewis Layard, Gent. to be Lieutenant, vice Charles Churchill, preferred; by purchaſe.

11th reg. of foot: Lieut. William Douglas to be Quartermaſter, vice James Sturrock, who reſigns.

13th reg. of foot: Enſ. Alexander Penroſe Cuming to be Quartermaſter, vice William Mafon; by purchaſe.

14th reg. of foot: Capt. Stanhope Hervey, from halfpay, to be Captain, vice Alexander Murray, who exchanges.

15th reg. of foot: Lieut. Patrick Sinclair to be Captain, vice Thomas Mitchell; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Enſ. John George Goldfrapp to be Lieutenant, vice Patrick Sinclair; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Hugh Lloyd, Gent. to be Enſign, vice John George Goldfrapp; by purchaſe.

16th reg. of foot: Enſ. Carew Smith to be Lieutenant, vice John Cruikſhanks, deceaſed.

Ditto: Thomas Barrow, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Carew Smith.

17th reg. of foot: Lieut. Magill Wallace to be Captain, vice Richard Montgomery; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Enſ. Richard Potenger to be Lieutenant, vice Magill Wallace.

19th reg. of foot: Lieut. Charles Churchill, of the 7th regiment of foot, to be Captain, vice John Leſlie; by purchaſe.

20th reg. of foot: Enſ. Thomas Wood to be Lieutenant, vice James Rollinſon, preferred; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Robert Harriſon, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Thomas Wood; by purchaſe.

23d reg. of foot: Second Lieut. John Ridley to be Firſt Lieutenant, vice John Rainey; by purchaſe.

35th reg. of foot: Lieut. Hunt Fitzgerald to be Captain, vice Theophilus Blakeney; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Enſ. William Buchanan to be Lieutenant, vice Hunt Fitzgerald; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Enſ. John Greaves Simcoe to be Adjutant, vice James Cockburne, who reſigns.

The Edinburgh bill of burials for April 1772.

Within the city	Males 37	81	129. Decr. 7.	
	Fem. 44			
In the Weſt-kirk-yard	Males 21	48		
	Fem. 27			

Age.			N°	Diſeases.		N°
Under		2	51	Aged	—	20
Between	2 &	5	25	Aſthma	—	1
	5 &	10	7	Bowelhive	—	6
	10 &	20	4	Conſumption	—	30
	20 &	30	6	Childbed	—	2
	30 &	40	8	Dropſy	—	1
	40 &	50	3	Fever	—	25
	50 &	60	6	Small pox	—	30
	60 &	70	10	Teething	—	10
	70 &	80	5	Weakneſs	—	4
	80 &	90	2			
	90 &	100	2			

Edinburgh, May 19. 1772. Oat-meal, 1s. 1d. Bear-meal, 8d. Peaſe-meal, 8d.

Prices of grain at Haddington, May 8. 1772.

	Beſt.	*Second.*	*Third.*
Wheat,	24 s. 0 d.	23 s. 0 d.	20 s. 8 d.
Bear,	17 s. 6 d.	16 s. 8 d.	15 s. 0 d.
Oats,	15 s. 0 d.	14 s. 0 d.	11 s. 6 d.
Peaſe,	14 s. 6 d.	13 s. 0 d.	12 s. 6 d.

London gazette, April 4. 11. 18. 25.

AVERAGE PRICES of CORN.

By the Winchester buſhel of eight gallons.

Publiſhed by authority of parliament, and ſigned WILL. COOKE. [168.]

GENERAL AVERAGE per buſhel.

[The upper line is the average for England and Wales; the under line that for part of Scotland.—The columns are, 1. Wheat; 2. Rye; 3. Barley; 4. Oats; 5. Beans; 6. Big.—Big [xxxi. 270.] is peculiar to Scotland.]

From March 16. to March 21.

Wh.		Rye		Barl.		Oats		Bea.		Big.	
s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
6	3	4	11	3	1	2	1	3	7	-	-
4	11	3	4	2	8	2	2	3	6	2	3

From March 23. to March 28.

6	4	4	9	3	0	2	1	3	7	-	-
5	0	3	4	2	9	2	3	3	7	2	3

From March 30. to April 4.

6	5	4	10	3	0	2	0	3	7	-	-
5	1	3	1	2	8	2	3	3	1	2	3

From April 6. to April 11.

6	6	4	10	3	1	2	1	3	7	-	-
5	2	3	4	2	11	2	3	3	2	2	5